

The Middlebury Campus

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Thursday, March 24, 2011

Since 1905



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

COLLEGE COMMUNITY CONVENES TO UNDERSTAND CRISIS IN JAPAN

Students, faculty and staff gathered in McCullough Social Space Monday for a panel discussion on the disaster in Japan. Presenters included faculty from the Japanese studies, history and physics departments.

College community fundraises for Japan

By Dan Reed
STAFF WRITER

Following the recent earthquake, tsunami and resulting nuclear crisis in Japan, Middlebury students and faculty at the College's partner university, the International Christian University (ICU) in Tokyo have decided to evacuate the island. The College community, consisting of many with close ties to Japan, has begun fundraising and aid efforts to help those in need.

"Whenever there is a tragedy, or anything that is upsetting, the College community tends to have a three-pronged approach: fundraising and humanitarian efforts, some sort of remembrance and an educational gathering of some kind," said Chaplain Laurie Jordan.

"The first is often launched before the faculty can even blink an eye, because students are so quick to respond."

The two student organizations leading the fundraising are Believe 4 Kids and the Japanese Club. Also providing support are the Religious Life Council and the Distinguished Men of Color. Together, these groups are mounting the 1,000 Paper Cranes campaign.

"The campaign hopes to raise awareness of the current issue, raise funds for the tsunami relief effort and increase appreciation and connection to Japanese culture," said Believe 4 Kids leader Mariam Boxwala '13.

Members have been accepting

SEE STUDENT, PAGE 4

Decathlon starts construction

By Kathryn DeSutter
NEWS EDITOR

On Tuesday, April 5, the Solar Decathlon team hopes to gather members of the College and local community as well as sponsors and donors to celebrate an "Up-Rising" — the beginning of construction for their solar-powered home to be featured in the U.S. Department of Energy-sponsored Solar Decathlon competition held on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. this September.

The event will mark the establishment of the first wall of the home and kick off the construction process to take place in the coming months in the Ridgeline parking lot behind the Mods. The "Up-Rising" will take place the Tuesday following spring recess at 11 a.m. at the Harris Farm House, located on College Street across from the Recycling Center.

"The Solar Decathlon Team is really excited to pause and recognize this huge milestone, and hopes that the whole student body will come celebrate with them!" said Astrid Schanz-Garbassi '12, who is heavily involved in event planning for the team. "The event will be an excellent opportunity for everyone in the student body to celebrate one of the many great initiatives on campus."

Those attending can enjoy milk from local dairies, Stonyfield farm yogurt, apple cider and Otter Creek baked goods. In addition, team members will be selling T-shirts and awarding prizes.

Student Construction Coordinator Alex Jopek '11 described how at the event, construction team members will raise and then brace a wall of the home.

"This is a significant part of the process because it's the first wall,"

said Jopek. "It's a fun part of the process — a lot of people haven't done that [raised the wall of a home] before."

The team will prepare for this event by beginning the construction process over spring recess. Jopek outlined an estimated timeline for the spring recess construction pro-

SEE TEAM, PAGE 2

Professor charged with embezzlement



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Posse expands to Chicago

By Lea Calderon-Guthe
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Beginning in the fall of 2011, the College will recruit 10 Posse Scholars from Chicago in addition to the roughly 10 students selected each year from New York City.

For the past 12 years, Middlebury has been a partner school to The Posse Foundation, offering full four-year scholarships to students selected and mentored by the foundation, or Posse Scholars. The Posse Foundation works within the public school systems of Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City and Washington, D.C. to identify and prepare talented student leaders from diverse backgrounds for attendance at one of Posse's 39 prestigious

partner institutions. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz spoke to the success of the Posse program at Middlebury.

"So many on campus, and on the board of trustees, are strong believers in the Posse program because of the diversity, leadership and talents our Posse Scholars bring to Middlebury," said Liebowitz. "I believe the Posse Foundation does an exceptional job identifying and then mentoring talented students — students who otherwise might never apply to Middlebury — who then make great contributions to our campus."

Middlebury was the fourth school to forge a relationship with The Posse Foundation, and it will join the ranks of approximately one

third of the current partner schools that draw Posse Scholars from multiple cities. Middlebury will be only the second New England school to recruit through Posse Chicago, the other being Trinity College. Dean of the College, Chief Diversity Officer and former Vice President of The Posse Foundation Shirley Collado, who was also a member of the foundation's first graduating class, attributes the expansion of the College's relationship with Posse to an already successful history together.

"The College has experienced a very positive and rewarding partnership with The Posse Foundation and was looking to expand the program

SEE EXPANSION, PAGE 5

Students smokers face challenges

By James Moore
STAFF WRITER

It would be hard to name a legal activity as thoroughly reviled, passionately embraced, socially segregated or emotionally charged as the practice of cigarette smoking. Cigarettes are both antiquated and obscene — on the one hand, a symbol of freedom and rebellion; on the other, of death and stupidity. At the College, people who smoke often feel much more the weight of the latter. After all, in this day and age, why would anyone decide to pick up a habit so heavily stigmatized, so fraught with well-publicized peril?

According to the most recent Middlebury College Alcohol Survey, conducted Fall 2010, out of 766 Middlebury students surveyed, about 79 percent reported never having smoked tobacco. 9.1 percent reported having smoked once or twice in the past 30 days, with steadily and rapidly decreasing numbers as frequency of use increased — just 2.5 percent responded to having had

a cigarette more than 40 times in a month. On the other hand, statistics in the most recent census point to a much greater number of smokers than the Middlebury Alcohol Survey reports. Over the past five or so years, the rate of self-reported cigarette users, both under the age of 18 and 18 and over, has stabilized — around 20 percent. From statistics alone, in this particular sphere Middlebury seems to be a peculiarly healthy campus compared with the general population. Casual observation seems to bear this perception out. Walking from the CFA to Bi Hall between classes turns up at most four smokers (and during midterms, five.) Smoking, it is safe to say, is not a huge problem on campus — as Jyoti Daniere, director of health and wellness education, put it, in comparison to other places "In Vermont, nobody smokes." Still, in huddled groups or solitary moments, outside the Davis Family

SEE NO COUNTRY, PAGE 16



Eleanor Horowitz, Photos Editor

ON THE EDGE OF THEIR SEATS

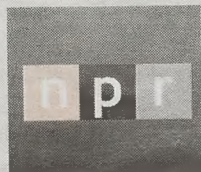
Students gathered in the Grille on Friday, March 18 to watch the men's basketball team compete in the final four against St. Thomas. The Panthers fell by two points after missing a last-second three-point shot.

this week



Cash for turns

Preschoolers brave spring weather for ski fundraiser, pg 6.



This I Believe

NPR host talks about the power of speech, pg 16.

It takes town to tango

Dance troupe Big APE comes to the Town Hall Theater, pg 17.



Team to celebrate beginning of construction April 5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cess.

On Monday, March 28, the team will survey the site and set the temporary foundation. The team will work Tuesday through Thursday on the floor of the home, with a crane arriving on Wednesday to place the floor onto the temporary foundation. On Friday, the team will begin building a wall frame and putting sheathing (plywood) on the frame. It is this wall frame that the team will raise on April 5.

After the April 5 event, students will primarily use Saturday workdays for construction of the home, Jopek said.

"You can't really construct an hour here [or] an hour whenever you have time — you have to get out all the tools and you have to have the rest of the team there," said Jopek.

As a result of the time-intensive nature of the process, Jopek hopes to make the most out of the upcoming Saturdays.

"The team is tremendously dedicated to putting forth the effort to build as much as possible ourselves, and we're ideally going to have six to eight hour work parties," said Jopek.

Three students with construction experience were recently hired by the team. These students, along with current team members, will be primarily responsible for leading the workdays and working on construction of the home.

Although the team encourages others to get involved, Jopek emphasized safety training as an important prerequisite.

"We'd love to get more students involved, but they would have to go through the safety training process," said Jopek.

Team members are grateful for the role of donors and sponsors in making the construction of the home a possibility. Middlebury-based rk MILES has donated materials to the project.

When the team traveled to the International Builder's Show in January, they were able to make connections with national companies as well.

"Bosch approached us, [told] us that they were huge supporters of the project, and they asked us to make a shopping list," explained Jopek.

In addition to material aid, the team has also benefited from the advice of staff mem-



Courtesy

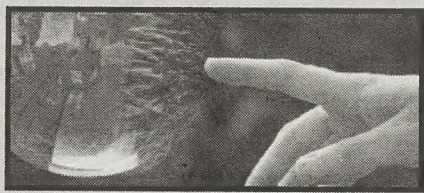
Members of the Solar Decathlon team completed a Power Tool Safety Training on March 19.

bers and professionals in the design of the project. Faculty members James Ashar Nelson, visiting assistant professor of architecture and Andrea Murray, visiting lecturer in architecture, are working closely with the team.

The team has also benefited from the ex-

pertise of local professional Karen Maxon for instruction in the software program Autodesk Revit Architecture, which has allowed the team to build detailed digital models of the home.

The team will sponsor a 5K Race on April 24 to raise awareness and funds for the project.



beyond the bubble

by Bronwyn Oatley, Staff Columnist

On March 19 the United States and its European allies commenced a bombing campaign in Libya designed to repel the forces of Colonel Gaddafi. The campaign has been undertaken less than one week after the United Nations issued a resolution permitting the use of force in the implementation of a no-fly zone over Libyan airspace.

United States and British strikes followed a barrage of missiles from French planes to begin the offensive, zeroing in on military and defense targets.

"More than 125 cruise missiles fired from U.S. warships and a British submarine had wiped out radars and surface-to-air missile sites," the Canadian newspaper *The Globe and Mail* reported. "Most of Libya's ... still-flyable, Soviet-era MiG warplanes had been destroyed on the ground... [and] Scores of tanks, rocket launchers and armored personnel carriers poised to threaten Benghazi had been pulverized."

Immediately following the strike Col. Gaddafi responded with a radio broadcast in which he attempted to incite fear and promote domestic hostility against the allied nations

leading the assault.

"We will fight, we will target any traitor who is co-operating with the Americans or Christian crusade," Gaddafi said, according to CBS News. "This is the best moment in our life. We are going to be victorious in every town in Libya." The leader attempted to emphasize that Libya is being singularly targeted for foreign colonialism because of its oil resources.

Gaddafi also delivered blows aimed at the American psyche, drawing parallels with other infamous U.S.-led interventions over the last half century. He stated, "You were defeated in Somalia, you were defeated in Vietnam, you were defeated in Iraq, Iran ... [and] you will be defeated [here], and there is no way back for you."

Gaddafi's remarks raised the important question of whether or not this intervention could turn into another Afghanistan-style quagmire, or at least put troops at risk in small-scale fighting.

Directly addressing the scope of the mission, President of the United States Barack Obama has stated that the Allies have two primary objectives: first, that Gaddafi withdraw

his forces from Libyan cities, and second, that he abandon his military campaign against his nation's citizens. Through such language, the allied representatives have taken great caution to assure their domestic audiences that they do not envision an extended war.

In this intervention, the bonds between nations around the world have been tested. In the initial UN Security Council vote regarding the sanction of the use of force, both Russia and China abstained. Both countries have since condemned the intervention and called for its immediate termination. Germany has also opted not to participate in the intervention, keeping with its post WWII trend of abstaining from all military engagements.

Nations that have opted to participate in this operation include France, Britain, Canada, Norway, Denmark, Spain and Italy. While the intervention is not acting within the framework of any transnational governing body, its implementation is aided by the common military practices of each nation, established under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"The ad-hoc coalition cobbled together to run military operations against Gaddafi's

forces is not run by NATO, but it could not function if NATO did not exist," said Stanley Sloan, visiting Winter Term professor of political science. "The infrastructure and interoperability for the operation relies on the cooperative arrangements stimulated and rationalized by NATO commitments."

While it is easy to proclaim the moral high ground being taken by the leaders of allied heads of state, probing deeper, the implications of their actions provide a much murkier picture. Provoking the removal of a foreign state leader, the coalition may engender a political scenario in which no visible political opposition is in place to fill the void in governance. Will this lead to a more violent civil war than is currently underway? Will this have domestic repercussions for allied nations? Will this affect the civil battles raging in other embroiled N. African nations?

None of these questions yet have clear answers. The only thing which is sure is the bravery of the Libyan people who continue to resist the corrupt government of a dictator that has ruled for over four decades.

Old Chapel announces all-gender restrooms

By Kathryn DeSutter
NEWS EDITOR

Old Chapel announced the upcoming establishment of all-gender restrooms in non-residential buildings on campus in an email to students, faculty and staff sent on March 16.

The conversion will begin this summer and is estimated to be complete by the beginning of the 2011-2012 academic year.

Administrators explained that the project will be budget-neutral and will not involve any structural renovation; the conversion will take place by changing signage. The cost of new signs will be financed by the existing Facilities Services' budget designated for maintenance. Because many single-stall restrooms on campus are already all-gender facilities, the cost is estimated to be relatively low.

Jenifer Herrera, special assistant to the dean of the College and senior adviser for diversity initiatives, applauded the project's commitment to greater institutional diversity.

"This project is about creating options for the diverse needs of our community members — students, faculty, staff and visitors," wrote Herrera in an email. "[The College is] working towards a more inclusive environment by specifically providing equal access to facilities regardless of gender identification and expression or sexual orientation."

Special Projects Coordinator for Vice

President of the Administration Sarah Franco explained that student input also contributed to the project.

"The students involved in this project provided the administration with advice about how we could best serve the needs of the transgender members of our community with respect to restroom use," wrote Franco in an email. "We

incorporated their ideas into the proposal as appropriate, taking into account that there are others at Middlebury who require or prefer access to single-sex restrooms."

The implementation of the project will give a voice to both supporters and opponents of the conversion.

"In the fall, we will begin conversations with those who work in buildings without any single-stall restrooms to determine if one



Courtesy

Old Chapel aims to make at least one restroom in every non-residential building gender-neutral.

multi-stall restroom in their area could be selected for conversion to an all-gender facility," wrote Franco. "We would like to give everyone ample opportunity to offer input on how a facility in their building may change."

Franco added that this consideration of opinions could delay the process of conversion.

"It may not be until late 2011

or early 2012 that signs on a few multi-stall restrooms across campus could change," wrote Franco.

The decision to implement all-gender bathrooms came as a result of a recommendation published in the spring of 2010 by an ad-hoc study group examining student life issues faced by transgender students on campus. Herrera explained that the group made other recommendations such as addressing housing

and roommate assignments, developing customized coding in the BannerWeb system to allow for the identification of preferred gender and providing awareness training for student life staff on issues facing transgender students.

According to Herrera, many of these recommendations have already been addressed by the administration.

In December 2010, the Community Council passed a resolution implementing All-Gender Housing as an option for sophomores, juniors and seniors for the 2011-2012 academic year. Students will be able to select roommates of all genders during the upcoming room draw process.

In addition, Herrera wrote that steps have been taken by Library and Information Services and Public Safety to accommodate transgender students when listing their preferred gender for the College directory, email accounts and ID cards.

In January, Lark Mulligan '11 and Viveka Ray-Mazumder '11 along with Dot Brauer, director of LGBTQA services at the University of Vermont, offered a professional development workshop on gender identity and expression to faculty and staff.

Mulligan, Ray-Mazumder and other students have recently formed a Gender Council designed to address gender-related issues on campus.

Community Council update

by Hannah Bristol,
Staff Writer

Council discusses seating in dining halls and jobs

On March 21, the Community Council met to discuss student seating in the dining halls along with the College recruitment policy.

Sufficient seating in the dining halls has become a problem recently, particularly during the peak lunch hours of 12:15 to 1:30 at Proctor. Many students are find themselves unable to secure seating at a table and end up sitting on the floor.

Redfield, which is located in a separate room on the second floor of Proctor, is currently reserved as a staff and faculty dining space during lunch. It holds around 100 people, though only 15 to 25 people use it daily. The availability of this space to students would alleviate some of the seating pressures, the Council found. Furthermore, the opening of Redfield could also help encourage students to keep the dishes in the dining halls as many students leave the dining hall with their food when they cannot find a place to sit.

The Council recognized that this could be a sensitive issue for faculty and staff members who value their own dining space. When Redfield was created, however, there were more dining halls, so the pressure on individual dining halls was

not as strong. The Council suggested reserving certain tables or roping off a section of the dining hall for faculty and staff. This would allow the space to be shared while still respecting the privacy of all parties. Another suggestion was to limit the time that students could use Redfield to the peak hours of 12:15 to 1:30 so the room could still be used as a meeting space by faculty and staff when there was not a high demand for seating space.

By opening Redfield to students at least through the end of the semester, the seating issue could be temporarily resolved while the College looks for a more permanent solution.

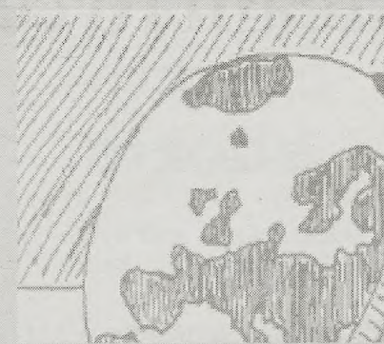
The Council also reviewed the College's job recruitment policy. The policy asks recruiters to sign a non-discrimination policy and requires those who do not sign this policy to provide an open meeting and explain their recruitment policy. The U.S. military, for example, could not sign the non-discrimination policy because of the Don't Ask Don't Tell legislation which outlawed gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military. However, following of the 2006 Rumsfeld vs. FAIR Supreme Court case, the College must allow military recruiters on campus

if it wishes to receive federal money. The College, therefore, had language in the recruitment policy requesting that the military hold an open meeting, but would not require it. The repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell changes the military's ability to sign the non-discrimination policy, which makes the military specific language in the recruitment policy unnecessary.

The Council discussed how this language should be revised in light of new military policy. The open meetings allow recruiters who cannot sign the non-discrimination policy, such as religious organizations or gender specific organizations, to still come to the College and explain why their policies allow for discrimination. The meetings also ensure that all opportunities are available for Middlebury students.

"It should be as easy as possible for recruiters to come to Middlebury," said SGA President Riley O'Rourke '12.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on April 5, and the topic of review will be several of the academic interest houses and the social houses.



overseas briefing

by Kara Shurmantine '12

VALPARAÍSO — Since I first started studying Spanish I've had this passion for it. Spanish is fluid, Spanish is round; in my mouth Spanish curls loosely yet precisely, blossoming like loops drawn in India ink. I'm a synestheté, so for me words are colors, and Spanish is rich, vivid; Spanish is bright reds and oranges and yellows, a basket of heirloom tomatoes.

I came to Chile to study Spanish. Or rather, the line of thinking that led to my being currently in Chile began with a vague but wholehearted resolve to study Spanish. I think I'm realizing more and more that things are never quite how we expect them to be. I filled out some applications my sophomore spring, I bought a plane ticket, and now I'm living with a Chilean family, taking classes at a Chilean university, working for a Chilean governmental program and I'm studying Spanish, all right. I'm breathing Spanish, thinking Spanish, dreaming Spanish, eating Spanish. I don't even speak English with the gringos.

And I'm frustrated. Words are who I am. When I signed up to study abroad in Chile, I didn't, and couldn't, understand what it would mean — that I was signing up to experience the sensation of being unable to express myself fully, of failing over and over again to match intention with verbalization, of constantly missing the nuances of everyday life that we use language to capture. My Spanish is very good but language is culture — I wasn't born in Chile, I wasn't raised here and a semester here will get me close to fluency but nowhere near the ineffable ease that characterizes my relationship with English.

In Spanish, I can be pleasant, friendly, agreeable. I can be silly, fun and occasionally witty. But I can't fully be myself in Spanish, at least not yet, though I doubt I will ever use Spanish to most articulately and precisely represent my ideas, opinions, emotions and other elements that make me who I am. Every word we speak contains innumerable layers of meaning inscribed upon innumerable more layers of experience and understanding. Here, when I want to say that I like someone, I can't; I can say that they are *una buena onda*, nice or agreeable, or I can say that *me llevo bien* with them, that I get along well with them. Both phrases approach what I want to say but neither embodies the idea satisfactorily enough to make me feel completely assured that I have expressed what I wanted to express. The frustration and uncertainty lie in the nuances.

A few days ago my host brother told me that my voice sounds more relaxed when I speak English. Perhaps that's what I miss the most: the relaxation that comes with knowing that I can explain myself in precisely the manner that I want, that the words will never feel exotic or alien. In English, every word I use comes with a history of experience and familiarity. With Spanish, I have to rely more on the definitions that I have studied or have been told.

I still love Spanish. But I'm learning something that has only fully revealed itself to me here, in a non-English speaking country: language is complicated and frustrating, and as often as it approaches the truth, it also withdraws, leaving speaker or listener dissatisfied. My romance with Spanish at the moment is fitful. Words are slippery.

Reaccreditation seeks student input

By Kyle Finck
News Editor

Every decade, American colleges and universities must go through a rigorous examination to prove their effectiveness as an institution. The College is now in the midst of this reaccreditation process.

For the past 18 months, the Reaccreditation Steering Committee and numerous subcommittees have investigated all aspects of the College. The results were put into a 114-page draft self study emailed to students March 18.

Dean of Planning and Assessment, Professor of Psychology and Director of the College's Self-Study Susan Campbell said the self-examination is beneficial in two ways.

"It's not just a process where we're meeting the requirements of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)," she said. "It's also an opportunity for us to think about how we want to get better as an institution."

Campbell says the draft was released to students to solicit their opinions, which will be included in the final report.

"Now is the moment for people who haven't had a big role to weigh-in and say 'that looks like the institution I know' or 'wait a minute, here's an issue you haven't highlighted but I think is a concern and I

want it addressed,'" she said.

Gus Jordan, executive director of Health and Counseling Services and chair of the subcommittee charged with student life, feels that students don't need to read the entire draft to get involved.

"I hope students will read chapter six regarding student life — it's only 12 pages — and give us feedback on how authentically the chapter reads," Jordan wrote in an email. "Does it match reality 'on the ground' from student's perspectives?"

Campbell also recommends students read the five-page institutional overview section — which she says gives a good overview of the themes and issues that run across the College.

"I bet students would recognize some themes and be interested in others that they weren't so familiar with," she said.

The draft also covers student services at each of the College's affiliated schools — the Monterey Institute for International Studies, the summer language schools, the Bread Loaf School of English and the C.V. Starr-Middlebury Schools Abroad.

"All of our affiliated schools offer a variety of student services appropriate to each setting and we attempted to address aspects of each school," he said,

"though the undergraduate college here in Middlebury gets most of the attention."

Campbell stressed that student participation will not only help the College's self-study, but also benefit student life in the future.

"We [the administration] think we have identified some issues, but we want to hear what students have to say," she said. "If there are issues that students think we could do better about, we want to hear what students have to say."

Many students embrace the opportunity to become involved in shaping the future of the College.

"Often times it is difficult to weigh in on issues that you believe are important to the improvement of the College, but this study gives you the rare opportunity to voice an opinion on student life," said Robert Shimasaki '13. "With such a small student body, every voice matters, and I feel that by participating in this study you receive the rare opportunity to speak out on campus issues that concern you."

According to Campbell, students will get two chances to voice their opinions. A general meeting open to all will be held on April 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the McCullough Student Center and a students-only meeting will be announced via email after spring break.

public safety log

March 14 - 20, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
03/16/11	12:20 a.m.	Theft	Property Stolen	Davis Family Library	Referred to Commons Dean
03/17/11	5:33 p.m.	Fire Alarm Report	General Cooking	Meeker House	Referred to Facilities Services
03/17/11	1:44 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Atwater A	Referred to DOC
03/17/11	9:23 p.m.	Drug Violation	Possession	Forest Hall	Referred to Commons Dean
03/17/11	9:21 a.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Coffrin	Referred to Commons Dean
03/17/11	1:33 p.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Davis Family Library	No Suspects
03/18/11	4:53 a.m.	Disturbance	Disrespect of Persons	Forest West	Referred to Commons Dean
03/18/11	12:49 a.m.	Disturbance	Unlawful Mischief	Pearsons	Referred to DOC
03/18/11	12:49 p.m.	Suspicious Circumstances	Suspicious Game	Ross Commons	Referred to Commons Dean
03/19/11	12:08 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Forest Hall	Referred to Commons Dean
03/19/11	7:40 p.m.	Vandalism	Structure	Ross Fireplace Lounge	Referred to Commons Dean
03/19/11	12:30 p.m.	Theft	Property stolen	Ross Commons Dining	Referred to Commons Dean
03/19/11	12:47 p.m.	Harassment	Domestic Violence	Forest East	Referred to Commons Dean
03/20/11	1:56 p.m.	Vandalism	Vegetation	Atwater A	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 9 alcohol citations between March 14 and 20, 2011.

college
shortsby Ben Anderson, Staff Writer, and
Kyle Finck, News EditorSAT essay question stirs
controversy

Online discussion forums such as College Confidential have been filled with complaints about an essay question on the most recent SAT. One-third of the test-takers were reportedly asked about reality TV and its influence on modern society. Students who are not familiar with popular culture and do not have televisions in their homes raised concerns that this question was unfair, especially when students are taught to review classic literature references to prepare for the essay.

Officials from the College Board have since defended the question and maintain that it was fair to all students, regardless of television-viewing habits. They have said that the purpose of the question was not to favor those students who watch television, but rather encourage students from all backgrounds to analyze elements of modern culture and the impact that popular shows such as *Jersey Shore* have on today's youth.

—HuffPost College

UF research to protect
bananas from disease

Randy Ploetz, a researcher at the Tropical Research and Education Center at the University of Florida's southern Florida campus, has begun working with members of the banana research in hopes of preventing the spread of a devastating disease to the Western Hemisphere.

Tropical Race 4, a variant of Panama Disease, was responsible for wiping out entire banana plantations in Southeast Asia in the early '90s and experts believe there is a chance it may spread to South America. Ploetz has outlined a plan to both prevent the spread of the disease and a way to fight it if it does reach American shores. He hopes to educate producers, researchers and anyone else involved in the industry. According to Ploetz, should the disease reach a country such as Ecuador where bananas are the largest export, the effects would be seen around the globe, causing potentially irreversible damage to the banana industry.

—UWIRE

Florida students fast for
hunger awareness

Starting at 6 p.m. on March 18, University of Florida students began a day of starvation dubbed "Fast for Food," ingesting nothing but water and Gatorade to raise awareness for homelessness and hunger. Jeremy A. Scott, director of the Black Student Union's Leadership Development Institute which hosted the event, said these issues are more prevalent in Gainesville than people think.

"[The University of Florida] gets recognition for athletics and academics," Scott said. "People fail to notice that a couple blocks down on University Avenue is where the majority of homeless are."

The organization used Fast for Food as an opportunity to give students a taste of life in poverty. After activists made it through the night, they split into teams and went around Gainesville buying meals, pillows and jackets for homeless people they met on the street.

—UWIRE

Symposium focuses on race, environment

By Jess Berry
STAFF WRITER

From April 7-9, the College will host "Land and Justice: A Symposium on Race, Ethnicity and Environment." The symposium is co-sponsored by the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE), Environmental Affairs, Middlebury College Organic Garden, the American studies program and the environmental studies program. The symposium will include various talks and panels, including a screening of the film *Fresh* and concurring workshops.

The symposium was developed by members of the Student Advisory Board, the CCSRE Steering Committee and various other Middlebury organizations. Associate Professor of History Kathryn Morse, Dean of Environmental Affairs Nan Jenks-Jay, Assistant Director of the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest Janet Wiseman and Associate Professor of American Studies and Director of the CCSRE Susan Burch have been key collaborators for the symposium.

Burch, director of the CCSRE, said that the goal of the symposium reflects part of a greater academic goal at the College.

"We hope that individuals and groups that may commonly identify with one part of this work, such as 'environment' or 'racial justice' will find common ground at this conference," she said. "The program reveals tensions and possibilities for redefining why and how we learn about race, ethnicity, and environment. This seems to us a great reflection of Middlebury's

larger educational aspirations."

The symposium's program will address issues regarding race and environment. Its organizers hope to aid in the CCSRE's goal of reaching out to and educating members of the College community.

Amity Doolittle, lecturer and associate research scientist at Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, will be giving a talk on indigenous peoples in Southeast Asia. She will focus on how indigenous people have an alternative way of looking at the central issues of climate change.

Yvonne Yen Liu from the Applied Research Center, an organization dedicated to racial justice through media, will be giving a lecture entitled "The Color of Food: Redefining Good Food." She will discuss the findings of the Applied Research Center in their recent study of race, gender and class of workers along the supply chain of the U.S. food system.

Carl Zimring, assistant professor of social science and sustainability studies at the Roosevelt University in Chicago, will be the keynote speaker. His talk will focus on environmental racism in the context of public hygiene.

Morse praised the speakers and activists that will be contributing to the symposium.

"[Doolittle, Liu, Zimring] and many other of our participants question what constitutes 'justice' — environmental and social — and how systems of power and oppression shape physical places and human experiences," said Morse. "They also are interested in seriously considering why explorations of race, ethnicity and the environment matter and what this can

teach us about land and justice and our work at Middlebury and beyond."

The end of the symposium will include concurrent workshops, which will give participants a hands-on opportunity to explore local, national and global approaches to the themes of the symposium.

One of these workshops will be led by ethnographers Greg Sharrow and Ned Castle. They will discuss their ethnographic research, as well as how a researcher can engage in a successful dialogue with their subject that will invite the subject to share their story.

Another workshop will discuss Latino migrant workers on Vermont farms, with particular focus on their use of language and communication in search of greater justice. The workshop will include role-playing to help participants understand the experiences of workers.

The final workshop will focus on the relationship between African Americans and land in the United States. Participants will be asked to reflect on what such a relationship would look like and envision themselves in a similar situation. The group will focus on the new demands presented to us through this racial lens.

Morse and Burch agreed that this symposium is highly relevant to the College, the community at large and the world.

"One [goal of the symposium] is to build on the previous work from this year that examined race, ethnicity and environment," they said. "Deepening that conversation reflects our shared interest in sustainability. In short, we want this conversation to remain relevant, meaningful and present."

College faces second evacuation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

donations and helping students fold origami cranes in the dining halls.

"The symbolism of the cranes harkens back to the Japanese belief that if one makes one thousand paper cranes and wishes on them, his wish will come true," said Boxwala.

The campaign also hopes to host a fundraiser event in mid-April. More information regarding 1,000 Paper Cranes can be found on the group's blog at go/1000cranes.

We are still in a wait-and-see
mode when it comes to the
spring term.— Dean of International
Programs Jeff Cason

"These student relief efforts show that Middlebury is a special place," said Lecturer in Japanese Kyoko Davis, whose family lives in Miyagi, one of the most damaged regions in Japan. "It's inspiring to see the determination to help in so many capacities on campus."

The College also led a remembrance service at Mead Chapel on March 17. The event "served its purpose," Jordan said. "We had a steady stream of people come to show their respects and share in this hard time."

On Monday night, Davis and Professor of Japanese Studies Stephen Snyder, Kawashima Professor of Japanese Studies Neil Waters and Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of Physics Rich Wolfson gathered to hold a panel discussion of the events. The discussion addressed the earthquake and the resulting tsunami and nuclear threat, focusing on cultural, historical and technological implications.

While the Middlebury community strives to learn about the disaster and aid in relief efforts, some students and faculty members from areas devastated by the series of disasters have been directly affected by the recent events.

"Middlebury students from Japan are really struggling right now," said Davis. "Midterms are already so stressful, but being so far from home and hearing about all of this is really hard ... But knowing that so many people care definitely helps."

Four Middlebury students are currently enrolled in the C.V. Starr-Middlebury School in Japan at the International Christian University (ICU) program in Tokyo.

Jerry Romero Jr. '12 described the initial moments of the earthquake.

"I remember the doors and cabinets shaking violently throughout the dorm," he said, "and the earthquake even had enough strength to open windows."

After the earthquake and tsunami, the administration promptly brought Romero and his fellow Middlebury classmates back to the U.S. As of now, the future of the Middlebury-ICU program is not clear.

"We are still in a wait-and-see mode when it comes to the spring term," said Dean of International Programs and Knox Professor of International Studies & Politics Jeff Cason. "We are monitoring the situation in Japan, and intend to make a decision one way or another by March 29."

Nicole Chance, Coordinator of International Programs, emphasized that student safety is the College's top concern. "Right now we are unsure of the long-term effects on our study abroad program in Japan," she said. "While we are hopeful that the Tokyo area and ICU will be operational, we will continue to monitor the situation and, until we have been assured that it is both safe and productive for our students to return, we will not put our students into an uncertain environment."

"I sincerely hope that I can return to ICU for the spring semester," said Lia Schnackenberg '12, another student in the ICU program. "However, my personal desires aren't the top concern in a time like this. If I had the opportunity to return to Tokyo, it would indicate that the situation in Japan had improved, and that's what I, along with so many others, am hoping for above all other things."

According to Jordan, students and faculty should not lose the momentum of initial relief responses and continue to aid Japan's recovery in the weeks and months to come. "You can plan a wedding years in advance, but you have to plan a funeral right

away," she said. "With crises there is a similar dynamic: we have to respond quickly. We can't immediately do everything perfectly, so it is important that Middlebury and its students not forget that this happened, and that we continue to learn and help."

Davis agrees, calling for whatever aid people are able to give.

"Being so far away from Japan, it might be easy for people to forget that this happened," she said. "But the reconstruction process is going to take time, and it's important that we don't let this pass by without helping. Any way that people can help will be valuable."

In addition to donating to the 1,000 Paper Cranes Campaign, students can find a list of trusted organizations on the ground in Japan. This list can be found at go/chaplain.

"I would encourage everyone to give donations, if possible," said Schnackenberg. "A little goes a long way, and Japan really needs our help right now."



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Expansion will double opportunities, student leaders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to another city for the last few years," said Collado. "We took a close look at the program and its success, examined our admissions efforts and diversity goals and came to the conclusion that this would be a wise investment for the College."

According to Dean of Admissions Bob Claggett, the College currently draws around 10 percent of the student body from the Midwest, and recruiting in the Chicago area through Posse will further the College's goal to increase that percentage.

"I have no doubt that being a part of Posse Chicago will significantly enhance Middle-

bury's visibility in that important part of the country," said Claggett. "We are, of course, always trying to improve our outreach efforts in different parts of the country and around the world to help keep Middlebury as geographically diverse as possible, and the Midwest has been an important part of the effort."

By 2016, two teams of Posse Scholars, or posses, will make up 20 students in each class, doubling the number of Posse Scholars on campus today from 40 to 80. Collado called this number a "critical mass of leaders."

"As I imagine in four years having 80 [Posse] Scholars on campus from two major cities in this country, the power of that is really promising to me," said Collado. "Not so much

in terms of numbers, but the kind of talent and leadership and academic promise that I know these students will bring from two of the largest and most diverse public school systems in the country."

President and Founder of The Posse Foundation Debbie Bial said increasing the number of Posse Scholars on campus benefits The Posse Foundation as much as it does the College.

"Nationally we had more than 12,000 nominations for 500 slots, so the fact that Middlebury is saying, 'We have more room for these great kids,' — I don't know what could make anyone happier in this situation," said Bial. "A lot of schools have separate programs that end up creating segregated diversity, but

[Liebowitz] really gets it, and I am very appreciative of having a partner like him who knows how to address some of the difficult issues related to building a diverse community... It was a no-brainer when [Liebowitz] wanted to bring in the second posse, and it's great for Chicago kids to have the opportunity to go to Middlebury."

Collado believes maintaining a close relationship with The Posse Foundation will continue to do great things for all of the parties involved.

"I think this will be a win-win for Middlebury, for The Posse Foundation, for Posse scholars and Middlebury students in general," said Collado.

Two students awarded Watson Fellowship

By Salena Casha

STAFF WRITER

The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship announced its 2011-2012 recipients on March 15, among whom are two Middlebury students. Austin Davis '11 and Sarafina Midzik '11 will begin their fellowships this summer after surviving the application process, which began with their nomination from a pool of 34 Middlebury students and concluded with their selection from a group of 160 seniors from 40 liberal arts colleges across the country.

The Watson Fellowship, which began in 1968, was created to "offer college graduates of unusual promise a year of independent, purposeful exploration and travel outside the United States," according to its mission statement. The fellowship gives each recipient \$25,000 for a year of independent study outside the United States.

Successful applicants show not only "a continuity of interest" expressed over their four years said Associate Dean of the College and fellowship liaison Karen Guttentag, but also a real "personal passion associated with their project ... often they are attempting to make sense of some personal core issue in a broader, universal

context."

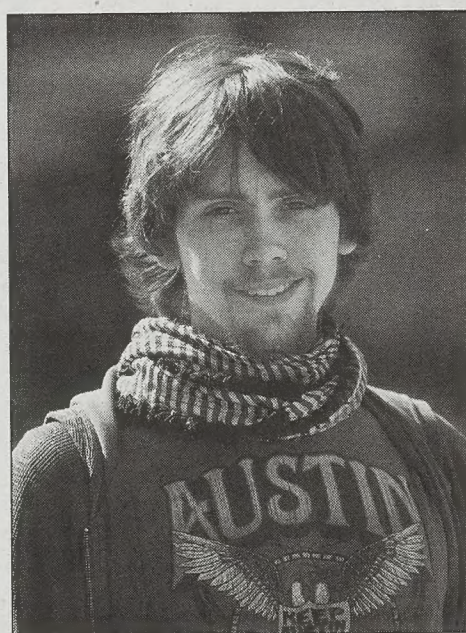
The Watson Fellowship includes one year of travel to a country the applicant has never before visited and exploring some question or overall personal mission by living in the new communities. Once abroad, the fellows must remain abroad for the entire year — they can only come home for medical emergencies.

Once the four nominees were selected in mid-October, each candidate embarked on an intensive process of formulating a five-page personal statement and a five-page project proposal. Guttentag explained that such a process was "really a fifth class" and that the students met regularly with Guttentag and Burns to edit their proposals and personal statements. In the weeks leading up to the interviews with the Watson Foundation, the Middlebury liaisons conducted two mock interviews with each candidate to prepare them for their formal interview.

Midzik applauded "the support system at Middlebury College [that] provides for this Fellowship. Peggy Burns and Karen Guttentag have so much dedication to this program."

Midzik's project will be addressing "interfaith explorations of evolution across the Middle East and South Africa" in her post-graduation year.

Guttentag saw Midzik as a good candidate because of the personal passion Midzik exemplified with connection to her project. Midzik's project is "trying to create a new model for interfaith dialogue and attempt to understand how people make sense of theories of evolution within their respective faiths,"



Sopheak Chheng

Austin Davis '11 (left) and Sarafina Midzik '11 (right) were awarded Watson Fellowships.

Guttentag said. "Especially since it is something she is struggling with so personally being a Jew and a biologist, she was a very strong candidate."

Midzik decided on her project when she was abroad in Alexandria, Egypt for seven months during her junior year. While she was there she came into contact with other science majors of faith and talked to them about the relationship between their faith and studies.

"I have a Jewish mother and a Catholic father and I attended Quaker camp when I was younger, so I've always been trying to figure out where evolution fits in with my faith," she said.

Austin Davis, the other fellowship recipient from Middlebury, also has a personal connection with his Watson project.

"My project is exploring conceptions of disability in the Middle East," Davis said. "I'll be meeting disability NGOs and members of the

disabled community, so I'll get to hang out with the people who are often, essentially, left behind by society."

Austin was abroad in Egypt for two months before a tram accident necessitated an emergency bi-lateral above-the-knee amputation. He has used the experience to fuel his future plans for his fellowship. Austin will be traveling to Kutar, Jordan, Indonesia or Turkey, Morocco and London.

Guttentag lauds the College for its creation of ideal Watson candidates.

"Middlebury is very lucky with having a very strong Watson culture here," she said. "We have a culture that encourages independence and allows students to create their own project. This isn't the first time in their careers at Middlebury where they are challenged to think outside the box and come up with their own independent study type of projects."

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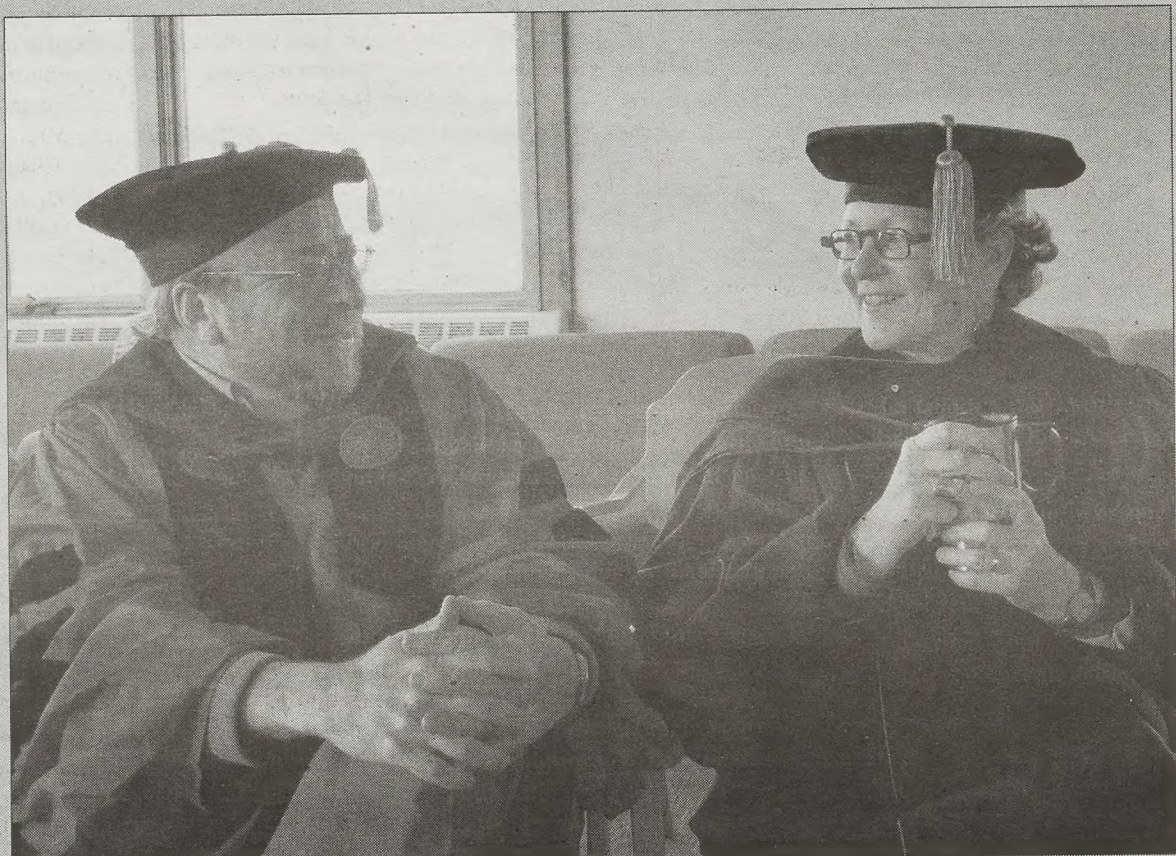
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Courtesy

PROFESSORS DEBATE TRADITIONAL JEWISH FOODS

On Sunday March 20 Professor of Jewish Studies Robert Schine (left) and Professor of Geography Tamar Mayer (right) debated the superiority of Hamantaschen and Latkes.



By Joanna Lyons

Local News Editor

Preschoolers take over Snow Bowl for Iguana Cup

The Middlebury College Snow Bowl welcomed skiers from age five to age 50 to participate in the second annual Iguana Cup, a fundraiser for the Quarry Hill School. The private preschool, located on Quarry Rd. in Middlebury, hoped to raise approximately \$2,000 to support the school's day-to-day activities and its scholarship program, which covers tuition costs for 15 to 20 percent of the students. According to Su White, director of the Quarry Hill School and a teacher there since 1981, the event was quite successful; 60 participants had pre-registered for race day, Sunday, March 20, and White estimated that with walk-ons, there would be approximately 100 racers.

"We hope that this is something that whole families can participate in," said White, who also announced racers' times as they sped down the course, located on the lower Allen trail. The race was a dual-slalom format, with skiers racing side-by-side on a red and blue course. Each competitor, part of a six-person team, could race the course twice, with his or her best time used to calculate scores.

Stever Bartlett, alpine ski coach at the College, helped with setup and timing of the course, and stressed that the race is an important community event that brings skiers of all ages and their families together.

"It is a cool event because a lot of the younger kids that go see the ski team training, both the college and junior club teams," said Bartlett. "This gives them a great opportunity to jump in the gates. It is a really fun intro to what the competitive side of ski racing is."

For Bartlett, the event was also a family affair, as his brother Judd helped with the on-hill setup. Bartlett's niece was a student at the school two years ago, and his nephew currently attends. The race succeeded in creating a fun, family environment to raise funds for the school.

"From being at the start, it seemed liked there was at least twice as many people as last year," he said. "You could not ask for a better day to go up there."

The race took place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and in the afternoon a band entertained crowds at the base of the mountain, an addition to this year's event. Organizers held an awards ceremony at 2:30 p.m.

Despite the vast difference in age of many of the competitors, a common thread brought all attendees to the Snow Bowl: a love for the Quarry Hill School.

Volunteer Therese Fafard, whose daughter Emmaline, now nine years old, attended the school and whose son Giles competed in the race, said that the school has benefited her family immensely. Its inclusive curriculum caters to the needs of each of its students, who are all between the ages of three and six.

"[The school] pulls in kids from all different communities," said Fafard. "It is really neat in that way."

For Emmaline, who did not compete in the race, the day was still fun.

"I just like to help my mom at the Iguana Cup table," she said.

Of those who raced, few were students at the preschool. Adults, some of whom also volunteered at the event, competed on the course, as did members of the

Middlebury Ski Club.

Grace Dayton, a sixth grader at Cornwall Elementary School, is a member of the Middlebury Ski Club, and raced — in jeans, a flannel shirt, suspenders and a bandana — with her team, the "Lumberjoes." Dayton's favorite part of the event was the costume, as she and her friends went to Burlington, Vt. to pick out the perfect attire.

Also competing with the "Lumberjoes" was Hanna Howell '12, who has coached the development program of the Middlebury Ski Club for the past two seasons. Howell noted that many of the club's racers attended the Quarry Hill School, and that their participation in the event added to its success.

"Their season is winding down now, so it is great to keep them enthusiastic about ski racing by taking part in fun races like these, where the emphasis is on costumes and team names and silliness instead of the competitive pressure of their regular season races," wrote Howell in an email.

Howell's involvement is part of why Bartlett loves the event.

"It is a great link between the community and the college and what goes on up at the Snow Bowl," he said. "That is what I see as one of the huge benefits."

The Iguana Cup, dedicated to the school's deceased iguana, Warren, is just one of the fundraisers that the preschool organizes annually. In the fall, teachers hold an arts auction, and in the spring, others organize a yard sale.

"[It is a] triad that appeals to different people in different ways," said White, who was incredibly grateful for the event's sponsors, "people who have supported us before the race even happened."

Sponsors included the National Bank of Middlebury, Middlebury Fitness, Square Spot Design and the Middlebury College Snow Bowl.

Peter Mackey, manager of the Snow Bowl, was pleased the mountain could host an event for a good cause, and noted that in its second year, the Iguana Cup is still growing.

"[We] always have to look at how it impacts us positively or negatively," said Mackey. "At this point it is kind of neutral."

Mackey noted that the Snow Bowl gives up some trail space for the event, but that it also brings new people to the mountain and that the organizers and volunteers for the Quarry Hill School "can do most of the set-up and organization without help from us."

"It is a beautiful day. I see no reason why we won't do it next year," he said.

Many agreed that the event was a success, as it raised money for a good cause and provided a fun community gathering for kids and adults.

For White, funds raised from the Iguana Cup will ensure that the teaching team, many of whom have been at the school since the 1980s, can continue to fulfill the school's mission.

"[We want to bring] kids into a space that is safe and fun and full of discovery and for parents to know that and to be included as well," said White.



Joanna Lyons



Greta Krahn

The Middlebury Snow Bowl hosted the second annual Iguana Cup, in which racers competed in a dual slalom format. Some teams, like the "Lumberjoes," raced in full costume.

Students embrace a classic Vt. tradition

by Devin MacDonald, Staff Writer

Middlebury students are taking advantage of their location and many are getting involved in the maple syrup and sugaring industry. Max Godfrey '13.5 and Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13 have each discovered a love for the classic Vermont tradition.

Koplinka-Loehr and Ford Van Fossan '13 began researching sugaring in Vermont last year.

"We had known Vermont was known for sugaring and realized how cool it would be to make it," said Koplinka-Loehr.

The pair went to the library and read every book they could find on the history and process of making maple syrup. Aside from what they learned, many of the books had old time stories and pictures, which helped paint a picture of the impact and history of sugaring in

PART TWO OF A SPRING SERIES ON MAPLE SUGARING IN VERMONT

Vermont. The best part of the books, said Koplinka-Loehr, was "the culture behind sitting around sap and having everyone come together."

After reading countless books and articles, Koplinka-Loehr and Van Fossan began talking to locals. "We talked to people who sugar in the area, like Charlie Sargent [buyer/meat shop receiving supervisor at the College], a lot of custodial and facilities staff take off and tap in this season," said Koplinka-Loehr.

Aside from the custodial and facilities staff, local firefighters are also involved in sugaring. The Middlebury pair contacted John Elder, owner of Maggie Brooks Sugarworks and college professor emeritus, and they went to his sugarbush and helped tap the trees, as well as clear the lines to help in the collection process. Koplinka-Loehr particularly enjoyed the community aspect of sugaring. "There are so many steps involved but it is also so fun to have a group effort around it," he said. "It's all making use of nature and what is provided."

Koplinka-Loehr took Godfrey with him to Maggie Brooks Sugarworks earlier this season. Godfrey, although interested in maple syrup, had not read about the process and was hesitant, as he did not know what to expect.

"I thought it was going to be a row of trees like a farm, but it was just a forest," he said. Godfrey and others helped the Elder family switch out the tree tapes, also known as spiles, as well as clear off the lines of rubber tubing that funnels the sap into the evaporator. "It was tougher than I thought it would be; a gnarly tree fell and we had to lift it off a hose," he said.

He enjoyed the opportunity to leave campus and truly be a part of nature. While the snow was deep, Godfrey said it was not too cold and there was a quiet at the farm, which is often difficult to find on campus.

"I was curious. I had not been out into actual Vermont yet," said Godfrey, and he believes sugaring may be one of the best ways to really

connect to the state.

Koplinka-Loehr and Godfrey both agreed sugaring is a community practice that brings people together.

"It was cool how easy it was to bond with the people I worked with; there was a lot of teamwork involved," said Godfrey.

Outside of the isolated experience of tapping trees in the woods, Koplinka-Loehr has discovered another way to burst his Middlebury "bubble."

"Start talking to people," he said. "A lot of custodial staff sugar. It is such a huge part of the culture and it feels like a lot of kids do not know about it."

He felt his sugaring experience helped him break the divide between staff and students at the College.

"The best part is being able to take part in a local culture and the staff that work here so it is not really a bubble any longer," he said.



Carrie Koplinka-Loehr

Many students from the College have become involved in maple sugaring, helping sustain a traditional Vermont practice.

Localbrief

By Charlotte Gardiner, Local News Editor

On March 1, The Blossom Basket, previously located at 56 College St. next to Sama's Café, moved to 8 Bakery Ln. The store, which was vacant when owner Jennifer Hill bought the space, sits across from Jackson's on the River. Sandy and Jack Burkholder opened The Blossom Basket in 2001, but Hill will celebrate her fourth year as owner this June. She has been looking for a new space for several years, but said issues with parking made it impossible to find a vacant store until recently.

"Our lease ended in February," said Hill. "We luckily found this space just before Christmas."

The flower shop is now situated in the space where a bakery used to reside. Hill said the old oven door remains, but the rest of the space was completely empty, void of both plumbing and electricity.

"It was basically a basement," said Hill, who is excited by the many parking options now available near her store, thanks to the bridge.

"It is a work in progress."

The Blossom Basket prepares gift baskets, in addition to providing customers with a wide variety of plants and flowers to choose from. All products can be delivered for a small fee. The store's website boasts many different events for which customers can buy flower and/or plant arrangements, including weddings, holidays, events, birthdays, anniversaries and baby showers. Get well and sympathy bouquets are also available.

"We have done a fair amount of work with the College," said Hill, who has a background in fashion design. "A lot of our orders are phone orders outside of the local vicinity, but we do have a pretty loyal customer base in town and throughout Addison County."

Hill especially enjoys the detailed handwork involved in arranging her flower bouquets. She and her husband moved to Middlebury from England, as her husband wanted to continue his work with dairy cows, and Vermont proved the ideal state for the pair.

"I love working with color, and flower design is contemporary, and the students seem to like something a little more contemporary," said Hill. "It [flower arranging] allows me to leave a little bit of my mark on my work."

The flower shop, which is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. welcomes visitors. Hill, a native of Pennsylvania, said she and her husband were initially attracted to Middlebury because it was a college town.

Middlebury flower shop moves to new location

"In this business, you get to interact with the College students and faculty," she said. Hill has already seen some "foot-traffic" from students since the store changed addresses.

Hill also seeks to hire students whenever possible, and Ashley Quizol '11 is currently her delivery driver.

The Blossom Basket's grand opening is scheduled for Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2, but Hill has no plans for the celebration, as she is still "finishing up the space."

"We moved from an old Victorian house to a more modern one with one open room," she said. "I am looking forward to making a change and it is the perfect opportunity because I can start from scratch. I am really hoping people like the new space and I keep the same good relationships I have had with the town and the College."



Charlotte Gardiner

The Blossom Basket, now located at 8 Bakery Ln., prides itself on sustaining a valuable relationship with the College.

local lowdown

Spring garden talk

March 27, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

The Henry Sheldon Museum, located on 1 Park St., will host Mary Cliver for an interesting talk, "Designing the Mixed Border." Cliver, a landscape designer, garden writer and educator, will speak about ways to reinvigorate your garden for the entire year and will give advice on planting in all types of conditions. The talk is the second in a series of four held by the museum. Space is limited, so be sure to register in advance by calling (820) 388-2117 or visiting <http://henrysheldonmuseum.org>. The fee is \$10 — money that is sure to go a long way!

UVM music festival

April 1 - 3

Make the trip to Burlington, Vt. for the ultimate weekend of musical madness: the University of Vermont's old time music festival. The three day event includes swing dances on Friday, fiddle and banjo workshops on Saturday afternoon and a Bruce Molsky concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday night and a dance session from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Sunday. Most events will be held in Billings North at UVM. Contact Mark Sustic (mrksustc@together.net) for more information on the festival, put on by the UVM Old Time Music club and Young Tradition Vermont. No advance tickets are available.

Jazz trio at Town Hall Theater

April 1, 7 p.m.

The Hot Club of Cowtown, a high-octane trio that combines western swing, ragtime and jazz, is coming to the Town Hall Theater (THT) for a night of excitement. With Elana James on the fiddle, Whit Smith on the guitar and Jake Erwin on the slap-bass, the night is sure to be entertaining. The performance is part of the THT's "After Dark Series." Tickets, available at Main Street Stationery and at the Middlebury Inn, cost \$20 when purchased in advance and \$20 at the door. Visit <http://afterdark-musicseries.com> for more information.

Ripton community coffee house

April 2, 7:30 p.m.

Be a part of this musical community event, held at the Ripton Community House located on Rte. 125. Seth Bernard and May Erlewine, a country-folk-soul duo, will perform for the lucky audience. Attendees can also participate in an open mic session. Call Andrea Chesman or Richard Ruana at (802) 388-9782 to reserve a spot for open mic. The Vergennes Lions Club will offer a variety of delicious refreshments, as well. Tickets are \$9, \$6 for seniors and teens and \$3 for children.

Stone soup summit

April 5, 4 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Join the Addison County Relocalization Network (ACoRN) at Middlebury Union High School for the organization's Stone Soup Summit: Growing Farm to School in Addison County. Workshops offered will respond to the findings of ACoRN's Stone Soup survey, in which every Addison County public school and the Hannaford Career Center participated. Enjoy a fresh, local meal with community members after an evening of discussions about gardening, composting and buying locally for the school's cafeteria. Admission is free, and all are invited. There is a \$5 donation for dinner.

Meet the Farmer: Monument Farms

By Molly Talbert
Staff Writer

The College takes great pride in the quality of the food served in its dining halls. Matthew Biette, director of dining services, seeks local and organic products whenever possible. Though just 19 percent of the College's food funds purchase Vermont products, Biette stressed that the statistic "depends on how you count it and what our luck is."

"The local food movement is important for the local economy," said Biette. "It keeps money in the area. If we know the people we buy from ... then we are making a healthier community."

Monument Farms, the source of the College's dairy products, is a prime example of dependence on the local economy. Monument has maintained a valuable relationship with the College for over 60 years. Such a long-held connection is unique in comparison to other food providers with which the College works.

Monument Farms, located just a few miles off campus in Weybridge, Vt. is also unique in that it is involved in every aspect of their milk production, unlike most other dairy farms.

"They are completely vertically integrated," said Biette. "They grow their own feed, they raise their own cows. They are completely local and they are just over that hill. It is really cool!"

A self-contained company, Monument Farms grows the corn to feed its animals, raises the next generation of cows from calf to heifer and completes all of the processing, bottling and distribution of the milk. So, when you drink a glass of milk in Proctor, you are consuming a genuine Vermont product that was produced — from start to finish — just miles away from where you are sitting.

"We are in control of everything from growing the feed to delivering the milk to the customer," said Pete James, one of the owners of Monument Farms.

The farm has been run by the same family since the 1920s and is currently run by brothers Pete and Bob James and their cousin, Jon Rooney, all of whom grew up on and around the farm. The secret to having so much control over their product is found in the unique way the owners divide

the work: Pete is in charge of the cows and fields, Jon the milk production and Bob the logistics and distribution of the milk.

"Probably one of the keys to our success is that we do not step on each other's toes or anything like that, yet we all work together," said Pete James. "It is one business and without [each aspect] we would not be the same. [The organization] just came about naturally."

The family's dedication to Monument Farms is evident in the high quality of its milk.

"I cannot imagine a purer product than what we produce," said Rooney.

Bob echoed his cousin, noting that one of the reasons why Monument Farms milk is so good is because of the local, self-contained aspect of the company.

"The amount of miles that the feed has to travel to get to [other] farms and then the miles the milk has to travel to get to the processing plant and then get distributed is unreal," said Bob.

Monument Farms cuts out all these extra transport steps. Not surprisingly, the owners are very conscious of the impact that they have on the local environment. A significant measure of their dedication to sustainability and the environment is the money they have spent on a methane digester, which will be functioning in two months. One of the inevitable drawbacks to dairy farming is that cows produce tons of manure and, along with that manure, tons of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. It is a constant struggle for dairy farmers to figure out what to do with all of the effluent; the new methane digester at Monument Farms will help solve this problem.

"In essence," said Rooney, "instead of the manure going into an open manure pit and getting spread on the fields [the way it usually is] it will go into a digester, which is heated and the bacteria produce methane as well as other by-products. We will capture the methane and use it as natural gas to power a generator."

Yet the machine does more than just produce methane for power.

"It is like a swimming pool with a cement top over it that seals in the gas for 21 days," said Bob. "Then the manure goes through a separator that squeezes the liquid out of the solids. The liquid just goes to a manure pit, which will then get spread on the field just like it always was because it has the same nutrient value. The dry matter in the manure will go on a conveyor and will drop into a room, which will then be reused for bedding for cows."

In essence, the digester takes a byproduct that was once used just as fertilizer and gives it many other uses. Using methane as power, however, is not the most compelling reason for installing the digester.

"It is not an efficient way of making electricity," said Rooney. "The main driver behind this was to produce our own bedding because it is hard to come by and it is expensive."

Traditionally bedding for cows is sawdust, a cheap, easily found material. But, with the advent of more wood-free building products, sawdust is increasingly more expensive and difficult to find. With the methane digester, this problem is solved.

"We were looking at it more for the bedding and electricity is a nice way to have it pay for itself," said Rooney. "It is a huge investment in spite of the fact that we have got a bunch of grant money to do it. We are probably kicking in about the same amount of our own money to do it."

Because of the enormous costs involved, there are only six or seven other dairies in Vermont that have similar methane digesters. Yet money to build the machines has become increasingly available because of the substantial benefits they offer.

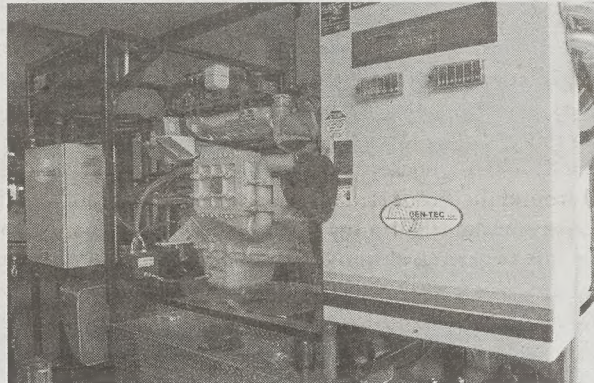
Vermont's power companies have started a program, "Cow Power," that offers incentives to farmers who want to install methane digesters. The money comes from people who offer to pay slightly extra per kilowatt-hour on their electrical bill to help fund projects like the one at Monument Farms. In coming years, smaller dairy farms will be able to install digesters, though right now Monument's grip on new technology keeps it at the head of the industry.

Pete credits the green movement for making the project possible.

"As this 'green' movement has gone on and on, the incentives for doing this have become greater," he said. "The reason there are not more digesters is because it takes a big dairy farm. The practical ability to install one revolved around having a lot of cows. Now they have come up with digesters where they can have as little as 50 cows." Currently, Monument has over 500 dairy cows.

Monument's methane digester, in addition to its close proximity and high quality of its milk, is yet another reason why Biette loves doing business with the farm.

"We get today's milk tomorrow or yesterday's milk today," said Biette. "It is that fresh."



Molly Talbert

Left: Monument Farms is home to over 500 dairy cows. Right: The farm's newly installed methane digester will process cow manure, producing methane to power a generator, clean bedding for cows and the usual fertilizer.

one in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Rachel Kogan

STAFF WRITER

Trent Campbell can often be seen around town and on the College campus with a camera around his neck, taking photos for the *Addison Independent*.

"People are shocked when they don't see me with a camera," said Campbell, who grew up in Deluth, Minn.

Photography has been a constant presence in his life.

"As a kid I was into ... playing around with cameras a lot," he said.

Campbell's grandfather, who took up photography as a serious hobby after his retirement, sparked Campbell's passion, passing down old equipment to his grandson.

It was in Minnesota that Campbell was first exposed to professional photography. His mother had started a magazine in Minnesota, and he occasionally took photos for the publication. He also was the photographer for his school yearbooks.

After studying film at Dennison College in Ohio, he moved to Los Angeles, Calif. In 1993, Campbell happily moved to Middlebury, Vt. with his family when his now ex-wife got a job at Middlebury College. He welcomed the change of scenery, as he had been "itching to get out of Los Angeles, where the urban environment was grating on [him]."

In Middlebury, Campbell's first job was at Lightning Photo, located on Rte. 7 South. In 1998, after his friend and predecessor Caleb Kenna retired from his post at the *Addison Independent*, Campbell successfully applied for the job and began his career as a local newspaper photographer.

"[With] a job at a little paper like this, you cover all the bases of photography," said Campbell. "I've done sports, landscapes, more straight photo journalism, art photography and plays."

Campbell enjoys his work at the paper because of the vari-

ety; he is required to be "a jack of all trades." Though it is often "a seven days a week job," Campbell sees great value in spending time in the community and meeting a variety of people.

"Every day is a little bit different," he said.

Campbell learns about his assignments for upcoming issues on Mondays and Thursdays when the staff holds story conferences. After meetings, he hits the road to capture the perfect image for the paper.

"[I] formulate ideas for what might make a good photo," he said.

Campbell is quick to acknowledge that there is a need to be flexible. While he does plan ahead, his plans often change completely when he begins the assignment.

One of the more difficult aspects of his work at the paper is finding stand alone shots, those which are not directly connected to a story. Campbell looks to the community event calendar for inspiration for such shots. Some of his favorite assignments include taking photos of children and theater performances. He also enjoys photographing barns, which "seem to have lived a long, hard life."

Campbell, like any good photographer, holds a photo up to certain standards. He aims for what he terms a full frame, and wants his photos to have subject matter on every level — "top to bottom and side to side." Campbell looks for depth as well to complete the image he captures.

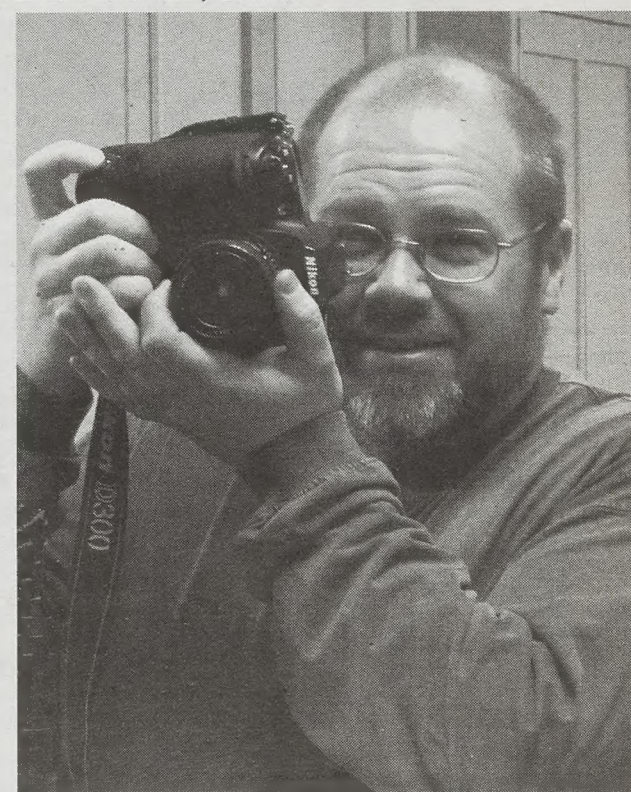
"Something will jump out at me," said Campbell.

When selecting a specific image, Campbell often chooses photos for the same qualities he intrinsically noticed while shooting. Yet photography does not define every part of Campbell's life. When he is away from the lens, Campbell takes advantage of Vermont's landscape and canoes. He also loves listening to music, cooking and spending time with his children.

Since moving to Middlebury, Campbell has embraced

many opportunities and created a life for himself that he truly enjoys.

"I love working at the paper and I can see myself sticking around for a while," he said.



John S. McCright

Trent Campbell, who inherited a love for photography from his grandfather, has been photographer for the *Addison Independent* since 1998.

The Id and the Eco: Rhiya Trivedi Yankee Doodle Dandy?

A few days before the Japanese earthquake (and ensuing nuclear power and human crisis), the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission in this country approved Vermont Yankee's request for a new 20-year license.

Despite the local plant's questionable history (radioactive hydrogen was found leaking into local water supplies in 2010), and political opposition to the renewal of the plant's permit for public good (the state senate in Montpelier voted last year to decommission the plant), the NRC saw no real reason to halt operation of the plant that supplies approximately 40 percent of the state's power.

Now, in the wake of the Japanese disaster and realizations that Vermont Yankee possesses the same design as the crippled Japanese reactors, the NRC is including Yankee in a federal review of nuclear power plants, though they are not expected to renege on their prior commitment to recommission the plant.

For me, this reeks of wasted opportunity. While I don't think that fear of meltdown should be the number one concern associated with nuclear power (economic concerns rank far higher on my list), if there has ever been a moment worth seizing to move beyond nuclear power, it is this one.

There were fourteen "near-misses" at U.S. nuclear power plants last year alone (defined as: "troubling events, safety equipment problems and security shortcomings"). And while that's the kind of news that is usually banished to the inner obscurity of the newspaper, it's front-page news in the wake of Japan.

We need a new model for energy production in this country. Crumbling nuclear power plants are no more the answer than global warming coal plants or oil that does everything from under-

mine progressive efforts in the Middle East to poison First Nations communities in Canada (Canada is the #1 exporter of oil to the United States).

Time and time again we have failed to seize opportunities at profound, nation-wide change. Last Earth Day, as oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico destroying local human and natural environments, instead of focusing our attention on reducing both foreign and domestic oil consumption, we vilified BP and called it a day. Instead of undertaking initiatives to bring electric and natural gas vehicles to the roads, and to improve access to and the efficiency of public transportation systems, we treated the

event as an isolated one and moved on.

This is our chance to take a good hard look at how we generate electricity in this country and make some sweeping changes.

I'm not saying we should shut down every one of the 104

currently operating reactors and replace them with some utopic landscape covered in solar panels and wind turbines.

But we could make the collective recognition that some of our current methods of energy generation pose serious threats to human health and welfare right here in Vermont and all around the world, and undertake the appropriate infrastructural changes.

Public momentum is a hard thing to capture; for all I know, the eye of the public has already moved on, and yet again, we've missed our chance to dream big and live better.

RHIYA TRIVEDI '12 IS FROM TORONTO, CANADA.



heardoncampus

[I am a] group costume dictator. I will make you wear glitter in your hair. Anything for the group aesthetic.

— Ele Woods '11

Op-ed: Maya Goldberg-Safir A very premature crush list

Sometimes I get fed up with this place. There may be better reasons to dislike Middlebury, but so often I come back to the same restless discomfort: I am always surrounded here. I am always watching. I am always being watched.

Maybe you can relate — you know those days when the perky girl on your hall is up in arms with her snow kayak, or whatever it is, and she's giddily torn about how exactly to finger paint her new sneakers? Perhaps you've been unable to even begin an essay in the library due to the frantic anxiety of just having seen too many people you've made-out with? If you've ever fallen asleep crying, or gotten too drunk, or watched three episodes of reality TV instead of reading the genuinely interesting article you were meant to and walked ashamed into the dining hall the next morning to the greeting of one hundred pairs of eyes that seem to say *hey, good morning, we can tell that you're feeling like shit* — I get it.

But even with the releasing *hallelujah* of spring break on its way, a funny thing happened to me. I decided to write a love letter to Middlebury.

Let's begin with the men's ice hockey game I went to a few weeks ago. I don't know any men's hockey players. I prescribe to some strange social code stating that we are not meant to be friends. At the hockey game however, when some obnoxious Castleton St. player slammed a Middlebury player against the glass, I became immediately furious. I wanted to yell like a heavily-bosomed mother in her son's old jersey, *don't you dare mess with my boy ever again*.

Then I went to the Middlebury improv show. I have a few friends in the group, but the members I felt most fascinated by were students I only kind of know, a little bit, not really. That's the point — I'd only seen some of them from afar, only admired

one's thick red hair and another with his cute, accented girlfriend. Every member of the group felt familiar, tangible and *adorable*.

After the improv show, I anxiously watched the men's basketball game in McCullough. I wanted them to win so badly — perhaps mostly because Jamal has such a great laugh and Ryan Sharry still says "hi" to me and I still secretly wish that Jake Wolfen would come to Hillel and the other day I saw Andrew Locke put a plate down in Proctor with a fork stuck straight out of his mashed potatoes. After the team lost by a heart-wrenching two points, all I wanted to do was hug the shit out of each of them.

I don't mean to focus my glorified love on only the most admired groups of campus. I've experienced more subtle moments too. Like seeing a girl singing to her headphones while toasting a bagel, or the quiet girl from my English class breaking it down at the bar or discovering that two seemingly disconnected people I know are friends, or better yet, dating. Even the knowledge you'll probably understand any joke I make about the Bunker or Proctor vegetable stock feels reassuring.

I spend a lot of my time at Middlebury comparing myself to others. I dare you to admit that you do too. We are all lazy, crazy, hung-over, failing, ugly and fat on our most miserable days here. But we are also thrown together in these tight spaces in ways that sometimes makes me feel almost breathlessly appreciative of others. So to everyone, before you go on a liberating road trip or return home or take some crazy island adventure, I want to thank you — for surrounding me, for watching me, and for allowing me to watch you.

MAYA GOLDBERG-SAFIR '12 IS FROM OAKLAND, CALIF.

Best Week Ever: Jaime Fuller Panther Blood: An exercise in bi-winning

The past few weeks, there have been several op-eds printed in the *Campus* protesting the stifling nature of Middlebury's rigorous academic demands. Although I agreed with many of the arguments presented in the op-eds, as a lifelong nerd with no hope of salvation and a puppet of the administration, I feel honor-bound to defend our institution and its stressed inhabitants.

I don't think we can make Middlebury students into the young adult equivalent of peaceful woodland creatures by slashing a couple response papers from every course's syllabus. Being busy is a part of our genetic code. You can see for yourself in Bi Hall — several students have been spending every weekend this semester sequencing the average Middlebury student's DNA (This research only pertains to the study of Classics, or Regs. The researchers had no luck in pinning down a Feb long enough to collect some of their legendary golden saliva). Oh wait, you don't have time to walk to Bi Hall? Me neither! Let's be friends!

Midd Kids don't need drugs. Experiences are our drug. We collect student organization email lists like they are Beanie Babies — we sign up for dozens of things that sound mildly amusing, and only weeks later regret our gullibility when the emails pile up, untouched forever. If every moment of our day is not CAPS LOCK WORTHY, we think we are doing something wrong. I think that's where the anxiety expressed in these op-eds is coming from. It's not that we're overwhelmed, it's just that we have the sneaking suspicion that we're missing out on something. Such doubts send the Midd Kid into a rage of Cookie Monster proportions — but I think campus would be a sad and quiet place without the student body OM NOM NOMing their way through life, gobbling up every opportunity that comes their way.

I've renounced any hope of kicking my addiction to the Middlebury lifestyle. I begin each semester with a formidable array of responsibilities, but always have to deal with the

unavoidable fear that I won't be busy enough. It eats away at me until I volunteer for several more things, and I sigh in relief when my Google Calendar has less than 10 percent empty space (I've been told that my Google Calendar should be printed in the *Campus*. Let's just say my event descriptions get slightly more colorful the later it gets in the semester i.e. work at the circulation desk becomes Salaried Self Pity,

Just because you had to write two response papers last night doesn't mean your life-long ambition of being the next Banksy or David Mamet or Taylor Mali has been extinguished forever.

Compensated Procrastination or Prolonged Desk Molestation, and I often leave myself depressing reminders to "Die from a Thinking Overdose" or "Win at Life."). I drink more caffeine every day than most people drink in a week. And, I am blissfully happy in my insanity, because it is incredibly easy to spend all my time doing things I love.

Here I can wake up and go to Proctor and have a debate about immigration or feminism or the pros and cons of temping or whether Martin Sheen, Kevin Kline or Harrison Ford

played the best fictional president. I can go hear opera at the Center for the Arts or I can walk outside and hear an unkindness of first-years scream that "Tomorrow is Saturday" and "Sunday comes afterwards" at the top of their lungs. I can go to Old Stone Mill or 51 Main and be incredibly impressed by everything that our student body manages to accomplish.

All of this stimulating awesomeness occurs outside of our academic and extracurricular life, which is just as rewarding. Despite my often oppressive sarcasm concerning all things Middlebury, I am going to miss this place SO much come May.

Middlebury does not have a creativity deficit. If anything, I think our insatiable Middness, our inability to slow down, our unquenchable excitement about EVERYTHING, feeds into our ability to the most productive, creative and intelligent mass of people I have ever met.

I know this argument has been made millions of times (rough estimate) before, but people just need to chill out. Our intellectual growth does not come at the expense of creativity. They are symbiotic creatures, like Vincent A. Jones, IV and Facebook, Sunday Night Group and pure unadulterated joy at everything and Ross and pizza. Just because you had to write two response papers last night doesn't mean your life-long ambition of being the next Banksy or David Mamet or Taylor Mali has been extinguished forever.

Middlebury students are like Charlie Sheen. We're bi-winning. We can win at academics and creativity. It's not an either/or scenario. We got magic and poetry in our fingertips. We have Panther blood. It's time for us to embrace our stress, instead of trying to relinquish it. Remember, suffering is good for art.

JAIME FULLER '11 IS THE MANAGING EDITOR FROM NORTH CREEK, N.Y.

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Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

When Jay Saper '13 clicked "Reply All" to James B. Jermain Professor of Political Economy Peter Matthews' two-department-wide (Economics and Sociology) email advertising an upcoming speaker, he roused a discussion about the College inviting controversial guest speakers to lecture. That he took issue with the premise and ultimately the substance of a talk entitled, "Early Non-Marital Childbearing and the 'Culture of Despair,'" is ultimately inconsequential when compared to the grander implications of his email: the breadth of a liberal arts education ought to be vast and our community's debates should be public.

We believe Saper's criticism of the idea of the economics departments' sponsorship of Phil Levine's controversial "Culture of Despair" talk has merit. We also understand, however, that Matthew's contention that he merely promoted the talk is reasonable and probably reflects his true intentions in sending a two-department wide email. After all, Saper's initial issue was with the talk's promotion as a department-sponsored event despite its controversial nature, rather than a talk presented by the economics department. The distinction seems minimal, but it is worthy of debate. In a way, all Middlebury students could take issue with the College endorsing those speakers it invites to lecture. It is not the place of a liberal arts college to endorse speakers, but merely to present them.

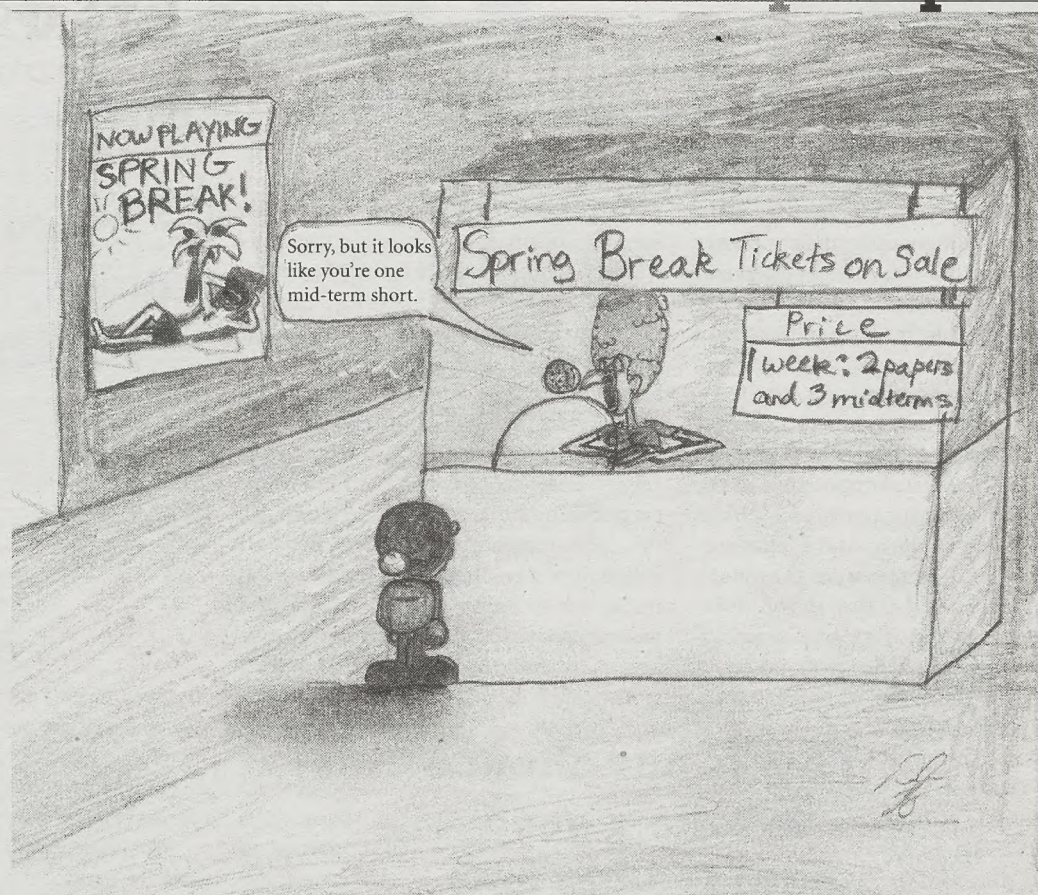
To be sure, the issue is much larger than the correspondence between Saper and Matthews. Their exchange brings to the fore many questions worth addressing — namely, who does the College bring to speak, why and how are these decisions made, and what action is taken in the case of controversial speakers?

Certainly we don't believe that controversial speakers should not be brought to campus at all. On the contrary, we believe the College should, and often does, make an effort to bring in many different speakers with contrasting viewpoints. The duty rests with students, however, to attend those talks most likely to challenge their own perspectives on issues they believe they know well and about which they care deeply. Only after listening to and synthesizing the viewpoints elucidated in a given talk should we begin to question the merits of an argument. In short, a liberal arts student ought to cultivate an open mind.

Students should — as should all people — hear and understand several perspectives on an issue before purporting to have formed a well-considered opinion. Asking probing questions and seeking hard-won answers is an integral part of this process, and we are in the right to demand speakers who will not shirk their duty to address critical questions in the message they bring to us. A speaker coming to lecture at Middlebury would be wise, therefore, to prepare insightful responses to satiate inquisitive minds — something we expect from all Middlebury students. In other words, we hope a speaker will have done his or her homework, too, and be prepared to engage in a critical dialogue with both with those who support their message and those who question it. We all should expect and strive for well-considered dissenting opinions and relish intellectual and spirited debates. To be critical for the sake of being critical, however, is generally less conducive to a thoughtful community. Only doing so for the sake of stimulating well-rounded discussion is helpful.

In bringing controversial speakers to lecture, the College could also promote critical dialogue by providing a counterpoint. This could be achieved by inviting another speaker to campus or by simpler means, such as attaching a literature with alternate perspectives to lecture invitations. Through the MCAB office, students also have the power to bring speakers to campus (go to go/speakers to find out how). From this type of thoughtful, community-cultivated and public back-and-forth, we will all benefit from the atmosphere of critical thinking and questioning, and gain lifelong knowledge in the process.

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Dylan Levy

Notes from the desk: Kevin Carpenter

@world: put down you smartphones #growup

My phone is the most basic model sold at the Verizon store. It can take pictures (but not videos); it has a speakerphone and texting options. Beyond these 'bare essentials', it has no multimedia or Internet capabilities.

I had the option to upgrade my phone two months ago and I chose this model over a smartphone. Why? Partially for the same reason I still use my 3rd generation iPod and eight-year old headphones — I'm a late adopter and I'm frugal. But it was also a conscious choice to prevent my subsequent enslavement to a mobile device.

I'd like to preface my ensuing rant with a disclaimer: I don't think that all people with smartphones are slaves to their device nor do I completely disown the use of smartphones. My complaint mainly lies with those who can't tear themselves away from their Blackberry even when it transcends the line of appropriate behavior. I sound like an old man, I know, but stay with me.

Nowhere has my concern been more acute than at an Allman Brother's Concert I recently attended. As the concert started, my Dad and I were scoping out the crowd and the remarkable interior of the Beacon Theatre in New York City. As we gazed across the sea of people in the dim light, my eyes were drawn to numerous LED screens illuminating the muted darkness above the audience. People were busy texting, tweeting and BBMing while Derek Trucks was busy shredding onstage. Instead of enjoying the actual performance of guitar gods, these drones were busy taking low-quality pictures in anticipation for recalling the concert. Their view of the concert was blinded as they changed their Facebook statuses to "@ the Allman Bros concert lolz #winning" in hopes of getting a few jealous comments from friends. They were crushing the vibes pretty badly.

I feel that the pervasiveness of digital communication on-the-go is reaching scary proportions. Entire relationships bend and break on single texts. For me, I feel that it's hard to convey authentic feelings in 150 characters or less.

But I feel that excessive smartphone usage has more significant implication beyond making people look a little foolish. Renny Gleeson, an advertising consultant,

gave a remarkably terse yet informative TED talk that has not really shaped, but at least helped justify my opinion regarding cell phone usage.

Gleeson's argument revolves around the notion of a "culture of availability": an increased notion of availability from having smartphones (via phone, texts, emails, etc.), induces increased obligation on people to make themselves accessible. Recent studies have postulated that we are even becoming "Pavlov Dogs" as every Facebook notification or text alerts our dopamine receptors of a pleasurable signal and we slowly, and subtly, become addicted to checking our various inboxes for digital notifications. So this increased obligation to phones and faint addiction are making putting one's phone down difficult.

Additionally, with increased Smartphone usage, capturing our lives in digital format has become the norm. By spending so much time documenting our lives, Gleeson posits, we are basically asserting that, "our reality is less interesting than the story I will tell about it." Our artificial reality is taking precedence over our actual reality. This is some serious Matrix stuff, eh?

But we really should consider the implication of this ersatz communication method. Gleeson notes that when you are standing in a room texting, you're effectively saying, "what's happening here, now, isn't as important to me as what could be happening anywhere else." A tweet can never replace a face-to-face interaction. Trolling the Internet isn't an evil in itself, but it should be done when someone isn't in the company of others who they could interact with instead.

Ultimately, the flood of smartphones and increased accessibility is a reality we all must come to terms with. We just have to, as a collective group, ensure that these digital forms of communication never usurp the profundity and significance of real, face-to-face interaction.

As a note: If you see me texting at a party, don't slap it out of my hand. I'm just being ironic.

KEVIN CARPENTER '11.5 IS AN OPINIONS EDITOR FROM AVON, CONN.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Op-ed: Jay Saper

Building a healthy academic community

Last week the economics department sponsored a lecture on "Early Non-Marital Childrearing and the Culture of Despair," by Phillip Levine, an economist from Wellesley. Levine posited deeply problematic and racist conceptions that devalued a "culture" from which he retained much distance. I was much confused as to how he could engage in such a debate; however, soon I learned that this was not a discussion at all, but rather an unstable platform that he could not defend, leading him to dodge any serious challenges.

Levine suggested that "culture is something economists know next to, nothing about." Yet, for some reason he went on to make gross assumptions about cultures, dehumanizing certain people and reducing them to operationalized "empirical" facts. He refused to define success, but at the same time judged the probability of groups of people attaining "success." Some have "opportunities of improvement so poor that they think, why not have a baby anyways? Nothing better is going to happen to them."

Levine insisted that this was an "assumption [we] are all willing to agree on." To push his notion of disparate success values, he suggested that the "presumed probability of success in life for this room is very high, but for others it is very low." What exactly is such a statement really all about? Why is he even going to argue that "statistics drive the point home that early non-marital childbearing is strongly linked to poverty?" Not only does he fail to engage in a distinction between correlation and causation, his argument rests on the notion that non-marital child-birth is inherently bad.

The rich white man has only been so obsessed with marriage as a "necessary foundation of society" in that the oppressive institution that it be only further privileges him and allows him to evade addressing the systemic oppression which he perpetuates. Levine fights for "non-marital birth to be avoided" and suggests that "low socioeconomic status women" would have "births otherwise [that] would

occur once married" if not a part of the destitute "culture of despair." He vehemently declares that "the high rate of early non-marital childbearing in United States" is a "problem that needs to be addressed."

How is it possible for a man who admits to knowing nothing about culture to make judgments about women who so choose not to participate in the privileged institution of marriage that is doused in patriarchy and inextricably conflated with capitalist profit, which widens the gap that creates the conditions for his notion of a "culture of despair" to which he deemed a failing? The monogamous dyadic couple is not natural. Similarly, the idea of the nuclear family is a radical new form that emerged particularly raced in post-World War II America when only white veterans received lucrative loans to move to the suburbs. Only 23 percent of people in the US live in nuclear families, and at its height in the 1970s only 40 percent. We must stop supporting research around and providing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding that is dedicated towards marriage promotion activities; such action relies on a faulty premise that ties marriage instead of other social factors to the wellbeing of us and our children.

I am appalled that our economics department sponsored this event without allowing for critical follow up. When controversy arises around a lecture that the school endorses, it is no coincidence that administrators stand up against all opposition to defend the academic freedom of hate filled white men as they have with Levine and with Charles Murray back in 2007. This support only occurs because of the privilege that works to bring these lecturers here in the first place. Undeniably the demographics of lecturers we bring to campus and the topics they present on are not nearly as diverse as they should be as a result of the biases of the faculty who recommend them.

I am certainly for academic freedom, but we cannot freely support those who spew from a platform. We must rather be committed to those who contribute in conversa-

tion with our academic community; those who welcome challenges and see exchange as an essential foundation of healthy debate. The unwavering defense of Levine by our administration could not be more problematic because of the ways in which he reduced dialogue simply to monologue by not opening himself up to critique. We have learned an incredible amount from the Levine event about our school's immensely absurd structural privileging of dominant white masculinity and failure to challenge it.

Dean Collado suggested to me that I should not neglect to acknowledge that there very well may have been faculty in the economics department who objected to Levine and the premise of his talk. I did not deny this could have been the case; however, what I did do is point out that it does not matter if a fellow faculty member questions the endorsement of a departmental sponsored event because ultimately the only people who will actually be listened to are the tenured professors who are disproportionately white men. Our junior faculty members are trampled on and this is just a further layer of the multidimensional oppression our institution is invested in.

To change the patriarchy and white supremacy to which Middlebury College is committed, we must all acknowledge its presence. We must come to recognize our situational position within power structures to be able to challenge it and shape it more justly. None of our departments are objective and our administration must let go of similar assumptions regarding its policy. Levine's lecture picked a nasty scab, opening a wound that will never heal until we establish structural change in the oppressive institution of Middlebury College that challenges the privileges it maintains so that it truly supports the elements necessary for lively discourse in the academic community we must strive to be.

JAY SAPER '13 IS FROM EAST LANSING, MICH.

Letter to the Editor:
Donna Donahue
Thank you, thank you!

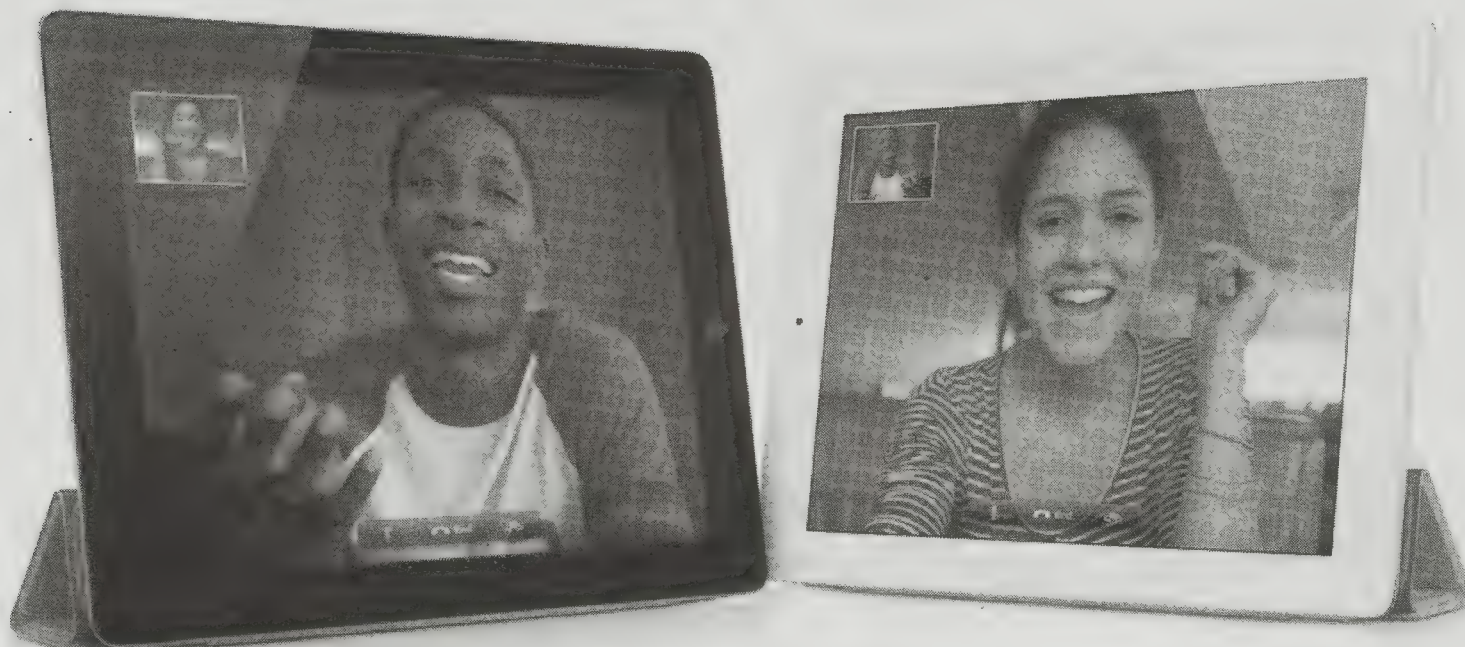
On behalf of the Better Middlebury Partnership I want to thank the wonderful Middlebury College volunteers who helped us with the Chili Festival and to thank all the great students who showed up to sample the more than 70 types of chili provided by more than 50 vendors. It was a great day made greater by an event that brought college and town together. Who can believe that our downtown had more than 3,000 people celebrating on a cold March day. We've had nothing but positive feedback on the event and you all were an instrumental part of it.

We would love to hear your ideas about events or activities that you would like to see in Middlebury. You can email ed@bettermiddleburypartnership.org or dld1noth@yahoo.com.

Thank you again!

DONNA DONAHUE IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE BETTER MIDDLEBURY PARTNERSHIP

The all new iPad 2



Sold in the College Bookstore

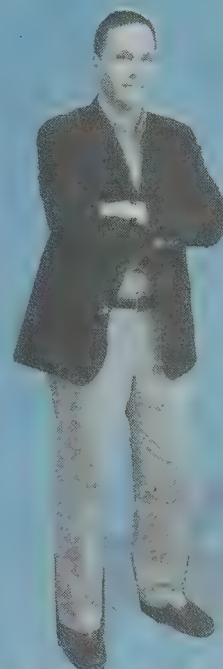
From \$499.00 - \$699.00
Wi-Fi model

From \$629.00 - \$829.00
Wi-Fi + 3G models

THE NETWORK

The Princeton Review ranks Middlebury fourth in the country as a school that "replicates itself." Not many students have seen opportunities to meet our administrators. Years ago every administrator would send a pamphlet with the name, titles, pictures and phone numbers of most Middlebury administrators, but though the information is accessible online, most students do not take the time to know who is running our school. That is why the Campus has constructed an "administrative tree" derived from the College's organization chart. The tree shows the relationships between some selected administrators at Middlebury. We could not fit them all — in total, there are 64 people listed on the official chart — but hope this tree explains some of the roles of the people who make a big difference at Middlebury.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
STUDENT AFFAIRS
TUTORIAL PROGRAMS
OPERATIONAL, COMMUNICATIONS
LANGUAGE SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS ABROAD, GREAT LOAF
MIDDLEBURY INTERACTIVE LANGUAGES
MIDDLEBURY



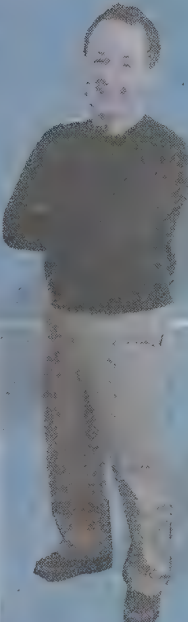
RONALD D. LIEBOWITZ
President



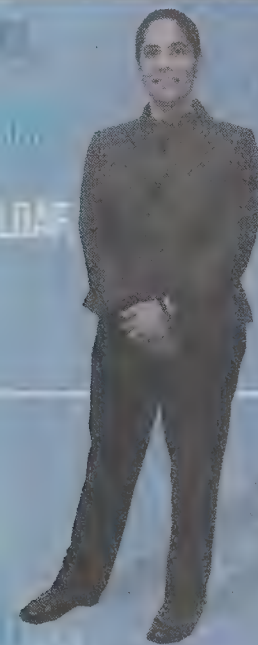
MICHAEL GEISLER
Dean



TIM SPEAKS
Vice President



MIKE SCHENFELD
Vice President



ALISON BYERLY
Vice President

- ★ Ph.D. in English; no other job at Midd
- ★ Working with faculty committees
- ★ Just when you think you can't get any busier, something new always comes up

★ Dean for Institutional Diversity then VP for Institutional Planning & Diversity, Vice President for Institutional Planning & Community Engagement, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Lafayette College; Executive Vice President, The Posse Foundation, Inc.; Adjunct Assistant Professor at New York University, Georgetown University and The New School University; Staff Psychologist at Washington Psychiatric Institute Center for Traumatic Stress Disorders

★ Working with smart, innovative and driven students. Getting to teach at a place that I love while serving a key leadership role in the administration; integrating student life with academic affairs in creative ways. Working with passionate colleagues.

★ There is never enough time to do all the things I want to do; Working on disciplinary issues with students when I would rather focus on the positive aspects of their lives at Midd.

★ The favorite part of my job is meeting with alumni and parents all over the world to talk about Middlebury, our aspirations and how they can make a difference at Middlebury through their philanthropy.

★ The most challenging part of my job is finding the time to raise even more support for Middlebury than we do now.

★ Came to Midd as Assistant Professor of American Literature and Civilization; now a Professor of American Studies. Dean of the College for several years before taking on current assignment.

★ Working with people from all over campus on projects that make a difference for the College.

★ Juggling responsibilities and staying on top of email.

★ Harvard University, 1983-1989, graduate student and Resident Tutor at Winthrop House; Ph.D. from Harvard in History, 1990

★ Working with my faculty colleagues to help them reach their professional goals

★ Keeping track of guidelines, rules and

Working with my faculty colleagues to help them reach their professional goals

Keeping track of guidelines, rules and

There is never enough time to do all the things I want to do; Working on disciplinary issues with students when I would rather focus on the positive aspects of their lives at Midd.

Juggling responsibilities and staying on top of email.

Political science professor

Developing new program opportunities for Midd students abroad.

Managing crises abroad

Dean of Faculty for five years, Dean of Faculty 2004-2009; PhD from UCLA in psychology, Professor of Psychology

The best part of my job is being able to identify questions about the institution that we'd like to be able to answer and then collect or locate data that will help us provide those answers.

The most challenging aspect of the job has been finding time to analyze all the institutional information we have while teaching and overseeing the College's reaccreditation process!

VP for Library and Information Services, Kenyon College; Director of Academic Computing and Digital Library Services at Wesleyan University; Humanities Computing, Harvard University

Learning about all of the fascinating projects that our faculty, staff and students want to pursue, and figuring out how we can help them get to where they want to go.

English major at Midd. Began working in newspapers not long after that, first as a reporter and then an editor. Moved on to magazine editing, including two previous four-year stints at the College as editor of *Middlebury Magazine*.

Working with a team of extremely talented, very creative people.

Working with a team of extremely talented, very creative people.

Dartmouth College '93, Masters and Ph.D. from University of Washington

The different types of relationships the Heads are able to establish with students. Getting to know and support students' interests on a different (non-evaluative) set of terms.

Balancing my teaching, departmental, Commons, research and family. This year, the Heads have taken on additional administrative responsibilities, and that places more constraints on my time.

Chief of Police at Assumption College in Worcester, Mass.; Sergeant at Stanford University Public Safety; Deputy Sheriff at Stanford University Public Safety; Police Officer, Burlington Police

Working with students and solving problems.

I'm not sure what is most challenging. My work varies from the routine things like budgeting to more urgent matters like crisis response. It can be challenging to manage my work and personal responsibilities, but I enjoy this type of work and find it rewarding.

Midd alum '86, two years assistant football and assistant lacrosse coach, 15 years head men's lacrosse coach and assistant football coach at Midd.

We have a great Athletics Department staff and amazing student-athletes, and I am honored to work with them.

We have a lot of varsity sports (31), we oversee some club sports and Intramurals, so there are myriad issues to handle on a daily basis. While this may present some challenges, it is great that we have so many terrific opportunities for our students.

I catered for 14 years. A little cooking school and a degree in Hotel Administration from UNH. I worked in a hotel after college, catered for a year and a half full time and then I went to work for Tufts University where I worked for just under 12 years.

Working in my industry in a truly amazing place (Middlebury the college and Middlebury the town) — the people (on campus and in town), the scenery, the activities and the lively intellectual challenge.

Keeping everything within my budget! Prices rise, requests are made and I want to put smiles on everyone's face. Sometimes it just can't happen.

Masters in Higher Education from Harvard University, overseeing a summer program at Tufts

The space that I share with students in one on one conversations in my office is very meaningful to me. I also deeply appreciate having the chance to work with the students who take my winter term class. Being a part of this community ensures that you have the opportunity to learn on a daily basis if you are open to what those around you have to teach. I have learned a great deal from students, faculty and staff colleagues at Middlebury.

Time-management

Played and coached lacrosse in England, and then worked at Brine Inc. in marketing as both a product manager and the director of Field communications before medical school.

Using my training and skills to help students when they are very sick or injured.

Trying to come up with fresh/ interesting ways to say the same thing every 4 years.

Stay at home mom. Started as a bookstore associate, running a cash register. Moved to textbook area later.

Working with other departments within the College to help create that great experience that the College offers to the faculty, staff, students and alumni.

The college bookstore industry has changed a lot over the past 20 years and even more so in the past 5 years. The challenge is keeping up with these changes (high cost of textbooks, on-line sales, e-books and technology) and being fiscally accountable to the college while maintaining a high level of customer service to the college, staff and students.

Formally a Sr. Safety Engineer at Digital Equipment Co.

Interacting with students, staff and faculty

Being able to juggle all the duties required.

Senior Associate Director, Associate Director, Career Counselor. MBA from the University of Pittsburgh.

Working with bright and talented students.

The recession's effect on the labor market/ Midd recruiting.

Operated a summer resort for 22 years.

The variety it offers.

The weather.

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY LEAH PICKETT, FEATURES EDITOR
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW PODRYGULA, PHOTOS EDITOR
PAGE DESIGN BY IAN STEWART, DESIGN EDITOR

NAME

(Years at Middlebury College)

Background.

Most enjoyable aspect of job.

Most challenging aspect of job.

The L-Word



Years of what felt like conditional love growing up — from my parents, from my teachers, from pretty much anyone who wanted me to succeed at something in the 90s — created in me an insatiable desire to please. I know I'm not alone because something drove us all to win at high school and get into Middlebury, but I am doing something even more productive (well, maybe) with my conditional self-esteem than trying to win college. Trying to please people all the time requires a sense of when another person is pleased with you, and trying to please people as if your life depends on it develops that sense into a survival skill.

I could go on and on about fostering general social rapport, but you didn't flip to this page to learn how to make friends. When you're making eye contact with the guy across from you in your history seminar, having an ambiguous lunch date or sidling up to a lady at a party in the Suites, your likeability is probably not the first thing you're worried about. Likeability is important in job interviews, real dates and when meeting the in-laws, but college kids tend to trade more in the currency of attraction. Is this person attracted to me? We want to be liked, sure, but even more we want to be sexy. I worry that's an ass-backwards (literally) way of going about connecting with people, but hey, I just write this column, I don't make the rules.

All of my training in the world of "Please like me!" prepared me well for the slightly different challenge of "Please want me ... rawr ..." Both, I believe, have to do with what other people notice when they interact with you, and how they show their notice. Attraction is an appetite first kindled by the eyes and then fed by sight until another sense — usually touch — is allowed to play, so noticing what someone is noticing about you is especially useful in the first few interactions with a potential partner. Sometimes it's painfully obvious, especially with alcohol in the mix; unbroken eye-to-playful bits contact couldn't get much clearer. But really you want someone with a little more nuance than that, right? I think catching someone staring at your collarbones or wrists, for instance, might even be a sign of greater attraction — it seems to me that the person who can resist looking you straight in the crotch would be more likely to savor you and any intimate experience you might share. This is probably a good time for a disclaimer — I don't actually know any of this stuff, these are just my theories and poor attempts at pop psychology. But like any mediocre pop psychologist, I can present some anecdotal evidence!

I have learned that I have two features that don't tend to draw attention from anyone other than people interested in me. First of all, I have freckles. If you're taking the time to comment on my disordered skin pigment, you're taking the time to notice a lot of things. The second is a piercing inside my ear called a daith. You have to look at me precisely when I am not looking at you to see it, and aside from piercing enthusiasts, my daith usually goes unnoticed. There are obviously exceptions to the rule, like people (parents, friends, mentors) who have a reason to pay attention to my body and its state of wholeness and well-being, but I think everyone can think of something about themselves that other people only occasionally notice.

Eyes are the classic fallback, and certainly if someone is gazing into your eyes, and telling you they're beautiful, they probably don't find you repulsive. But don't discount the attraction value of less traditional features. Maybe you have distinguished eyebrows or raised veins along your arms; maybe you give great hugs, or you have a particularly charming gap in your teeth — or at least someone thinks you do. Attraction, in my experience, has rarely been about classical beauty; rather, it has been about someone noticing what makes you stand out, what makes you you. Someone who has taken the time to find out what sets you apart and then drawn your attention to it has spent a lot of time considering you. Take the compliment of their attraction, and then flaunt what you find out you've got.

Lea Calderon-Guthe '11.5 is the editor-in-chief from Chapel Hill, N.C.

Campus Character: Ele Woods

By Megan Nesbeth
STAFF WRITER

"Oh, sorry bros, didn't mean to spoil your fun," coos Ele Woods '11.5 to the skateboarders we cross paths with as we walk along the newly melted path from McCullough to Voter.

I've managed to steal her away from the Porter porch, where she is usually found during off hours. Given the immense amount of time that the theater major spends rehearsing, it is convenient that her den of silliness is so close to the CFA.

"I love bros," she whispers.

Her hands are stiffly posed near her chest, fingers splayed to allow her purple nail polish to dry. Though she describes her current outfit of a chunky sweater, Victorian lace-up boots and pink sports bra peeking out of her checkered dress as something that makes her "look like a homeless person," anyone who knows her can attest that this is just one of her many unique looks.

Recently, friends awarded her the title of

The Woods Dictionary: some terms to help you talk like Ele



- DFMO: Dance floor make-out
- FOMO: Fear of missing out
- Pointmaster: a unicorn; that person on campus that you just think is the steamiest, but they're a little out of your league so it's just nice to worship them silently
- Life Points: points earned for interactions with your pointmaster. For example: "Maybe you were getting ice cream and that special person put some sprinkles in your cup for you that would be about 20 points which is about the same as a DFMO. If I accidentally graze your arm one day and it didn't seem like it was all that accidental it was probably because you're my pointmaster and I wanted some points from touching you," said Woods.
- NTTTT: Nighttime travel troupe aka when Ele and her friend Kate dress up in all black and roam the campus putting candy in different places for people. One day they hope to scale a building

"best costumed," reflective of her history as a "group costume dictator. I will make you wear glitter in your hair. Anything for the group aesthetic." As far as daily fashion goes, one tidbit that she'd like to give the world is that people should start wearing "shirts as skirts."

Her style may have something to do with her sense of place in the world, but maybe it's just her. This is not the first time that Woods has been swept up into Midd Kid fame, having already been featured in both the Midd Kid video as part of the Quidditch scene and in Middlebury's "How'd you Get Here" series. On being a Midd Kid — "I guess I am one, but I don't know what that is" — she cited her extracurricular involvement and presence within the theater community as making her a Midd Kid, and a hyper visible one at that.

"It's weird. It's always weird, first of all hearing your voice, but also seeing how you represent yourself to people because I think it's really hard to sum up somebody in five minutes," Woods said. "It was really cool that I got to do 'How'd You Get Here,' but I guess I always thought it was funny that I got to do it because I don't have a particularly interesting story compared to a lot of other people. I think that just because of the fact that I grew up in Switzerland they said, 'You can do this,' but there was no one thing that they could really focus on. It was just me talking about myself."

Woods wants to return to Switzerland someday, but having left the country for Midd

two weeks shy of getting her Swiss passport, she has to wait for a work visa or other travel document just like any other tourist in order to return for more than a vacation.

"If I have kids, I'd love to raise them there," Woods said. "I think it's a great place to raise kids, specifically teenagers because the drinking age is 16 and you don't drive so it's just a really good introduction to nightlife and being safe about stuff like that."

This was a lesson that Woods learned well enough; "I've never thrown up from drinking in college," she said, although food poisoning has gotten her.

In the United States, Woods is based in Los Angeles, but since she never went to high school there, she does not know many people and finds it hard to call it home.

"Sophomore year I would have considered Middlebury my home, but now as a senior it's harder to claim Midd as anything anymore," she said. "I'll make one eventually."

"I like to think of myself as a flaneur, which is a word that I discovered when I was 13 in a book that I didn't understand," Woods said. "It's not necessarily a homeless person or a vagabond. It's just somebody who lives from place to place and doesn't have a set home and just enjoys the ride."

Woods is a performer in every right, heavily involved with both dance and theater on campus, but her true passion lies in comedy.

"That's definitely what I want to do, most likely in Los Angeles, just because I love the sun — can't get enough of it," she said.

For Woods, comedy has been one of those things that has always been a part of her life.

"I have two older sisters and they always used to say I was funny when I was a kid so it was one of those things that was drilled into me like, 'You're a funny person. You can do funny things,'" Woods said. "I like it. I love making people laugh or trying to at least."

Woods feels that being part of her "kooky family" and the youngest of three sisters has made her who she is. She often has rap battles in the kitchen or has "curse offs" with her mom, who also shares her penchant for slang. While you're busy trying to figure out what Woods means when she says "DFMO" or "pointmaster" or "NTTT," her mom will be saying things like, "I'm out for reups," which Woods translates to mean she's going to the grocery store. Her mom is "awesome and super-supportive."

This combination of support and a little bit of crazy may have helped her nurture a lifelong dream: being on *Saturday Night Live*.

"I'm going to be on *Saturday Night Live*, eventually. I have to. I just really want to. As a theater major, I do not care about being famous ... It's not even my favorite comedy show, but it's just one of those things I really wanted to do when I was a kid and it's just always stuck with me so, if not SNL, then its equivalent when I'm finally out in the world."

Though Woods will forever live on in my mind most clearly as Eloise, the child character that she so fully embodied in an independent one-woman show that she put on last year, she prefers to imagine that her "identifying tag on campus is the girl with the red backpack" because it is more mysterious.

Close friends of Woods remember her alter egos fondly. Though they have not come out to play in a while, characters include "Hank," the aggressor married to her roommate who she makes cook her things. Another one, "Mirabell" is a southern lady who's just a little too aggressive.

Most of her alter egos harken back to freshman year when she was "really, really, really weird. All freshmen are sort of trying to figure out what their place is and I knew that I wanted my place to be in the comedy scene. I just didn't really know how to get there so I was just pretty comfortable with letting my freak flag fly a lot."



Courtesy

During freshman Winter Term Woods and her suitemates competed in their very own awkward Olympics in which badges were awarded for completing each awkward task.

When Woods became a Feb this semester after one of her credits from the University of California, Los Angeles failed to transfer, it was her mom's idea to let her stay another semester so she could finish up her credits.

"My freshman year I got kicked out of school," says Woods unabashedly. It's a truth that she's pretty open about because as she says, "People need to know it can happen. It's pretty easy to flunk out if you aren't doing anything right."

Woods was taking three classes and failed biology. She was intending to be a biology major at the time, but "just wasn't happy."

"I wasn't doing any theater because I was trying to be pre-Med and it was just bad news," Woods said. "I get a lot out of theater — out of doing it, the process of it and the performance of it. It gets a lot of my frustrations out so when I didn't have it, a lot of my energy just went into staying up really late, taking lots of naps and loafing about."

To stay on track for graduation, Woods took classes at Occidental College during her time away from Middlebury. While she loved Occidental, Woods returned to Middlebury because she wanted to prove she could graduate. She took summer classes to make it happen on time, but in the end when the last credit fell through her mom said, "You've gone through a lot. You've done a lot of stuff to graduate on time. Maybe it's just the universe's way of saying you should take another semester before you throw yourself into the world."

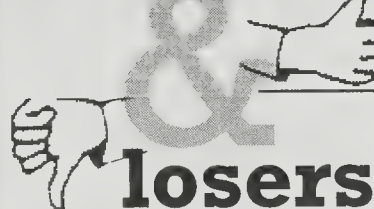
Facing her surprise extra semester with grace, Woods says that she will use her extra semester to "take advantage of all the stuff she never really got to do, including forming a sketch comedy group."

During her time at Middlebury, Woods has realized that there may be too much emphasis on "living life to the fullest" all the time.

"[I wish] that there wasn't such serious 'FOMO' [fear of missing out] on the weekends," she said. "There's so much pressure to go out every night on the weekends and if you don't you're going to miss out on something great. I wish that it were just cool to stay in and hang out, which now that I'm a senior I do a lot more, but not only that people at Middlebury are so cool, but also we're all so busy within our schedules and our lives that we forget how cool everybody is."

Lastly, Woods would like you all to know that no matter how strange you may think she is after reading this article, in the words of Ke\$ha, "We are who we are. Be better than Ke\$ha, I think that should be everyone's life goal."

winners



losers

March Madness

Something to take our minds off our work, at least.

We're almost there

Spring break. We can smell it.

Boy's Basketball

Made history in the NCAA championship!

Snow Storm

From our flippy floppies to snow boots again ... what an emotional roller coaster.

... but we're still here

It feels like week should be the break. It's time.

Out of NCAA's

But an admirable run.

Famed NPR voice resonates with students

By Michelle Smoler
FEATURES EDITOR

Eight years ago, in one of Middlebury's many attempts to bring the outside world to campus, Scholar-in-Residence in English and American Literatures Sue Halpern established "Meet the Press," a program designed to bring members of the media to campus. Middlebury students have heard lectures from reporters, authors, editors and producers of publications and programs including *British Broadcasting Corporation*, the *New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone* and *The Washington Post*. This past Wednesday, March 16, for its third speaker of the year, Middlebury welcomed Jay Allison, producer of NPR's "This I Believe" to discuss the "the power of telling something true."

Allison attracted a crowd too large for the planned venue, Bi Hall 220, so to accommodate the groups of people gathering in the aisles, faculty and students of all ages were ushered into a larger room, still barely big enough to seat the crowd.

Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben, a longtime friend of Allison's, introduced the discussion by highlighting, along with Allison's many accomplishments and talents, his unique ability to "bring other people's voices into the public realm."

"As with all professions, the people who go on to do great things at the highest levels of them, at root share in common the fantastic ability to do the basic thing right, the basic thing of communicating, in this case with your voice invisibly across the ether," said McKibben.

Allison's talk was, in essence, an homage to the communicative abilities and emotional capacity of the human voice.

"I've been thinking a lot lately about what gets my attention anymore," Allison said. "My god, it is such a flurry and it's worth thinking about and I wish I could ask all of you what captures your attention, what makes you stop and what makes you stop for more than a minute. One thing that still does for me is the voice and it's partly its strange power of our senses; we are vulnerable to sound because it can pass directly into us. We can't shield ourselves, we don't have earplugs. A voice can get inside and slip right past our brains and touch our hearts, which is an astonishing kind of power."

Allison relayed an example of this kind of power in a program he used to run called "Lost and Found Sound," where people would call in to a voicemail line and tell what sounds they

had saved. People would call in with all kinds of sounds, examples went from lacquer discs to sounds saved on paper that could only be played with cactus needles. Oftentimes, people also called in to discuss voices they had saved of ones who had died.

"They would say, 'It's all I have left' and it was as if it was an actual part of the person that was gone. They wouldn't talk about [the voice] the way they'd talk about a photograph," said Allison. "They'd talk about it like it was a ghost."

Allison lamented that the tendency for radio nowadays to focus on news, headlines and concision has resulted even in the cutting of sighs and pauses from story recordings.

"To me that's the human being," said Allison. "The playwright Marsha Norman talks about how her husband died, going to a closet some months later and finding a balloon and realizing it contained his breath. It feels like that to me."

As he has done his whole life, Allison left much of the speaking to others by playing recordings of "This I Believe" essays and clips from other programs he has worked on in this past.

"I tend to hide behind other people's voices," said Allison. "I also champion them but I am also in some sense hiding and discovering my own voice through theirs."

One of his favorite projects was what he referred to as "filling the broadcast day with clean slices of life." Every hour the broadcast would cut from a news story to a 30- to 60-second clip of a local saying something about his or her life.

"It is so unsettling because it's so real," said Allison.

Allison explained how much of what he finds comforting about real life and truth through local radio is the sense of intimacy and neighborliness conveyed through the idea of an immediate community connected through air waves.

"The lovely thing about having a local public radio station is that that's the one thing that ties us together — that we're here and that we're fundamentally neighbors," said Allison. "I do a lot of international work and I still think of it in the sense of trying to create a sense of neighborliness. I'm working on a project now that I'm hoping to get started sharing stories around the world and making big spaces feel small."

An essential characteristic of the Meet the Press lecture series is the extensive question and answer session, which allows students to truly interact with the speaker.

One relevant issue raised was language bar-

riers in international radio. Allison conceded that it is nearly impossible to express and embody the voice and essence of someone delivering a story through translation.

"It would be an interesting task at a school like [Middlebury], which is known for its languages, to figure out how to inhabit the vocal space of a primary speaker and translate it for something like this," said Allison.

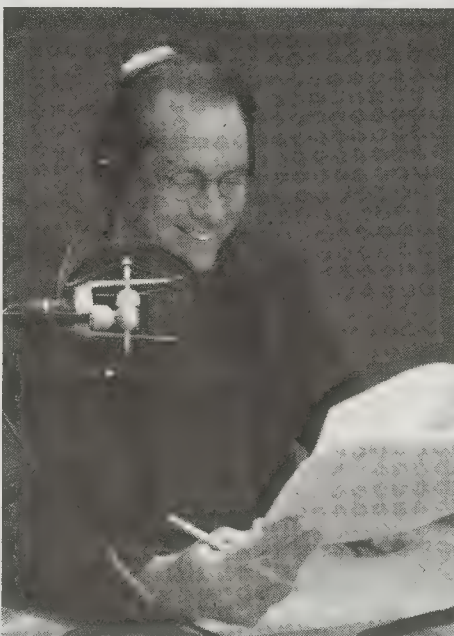
Allison's poignancy and obvious devotion to his work touched a chord with much of his audience.

"It was really inspiring to listen to Jay's talk. His work is a testament to the power of good listening and good storytelling," said Sarah Harris '11.

"It was one of the best talks I have been to at Middlebury," said Logan Brown '11. "His voice and the voices of others he played for us certainly made me stop and reflect long after he was finished speaking."

Some, however, felt Allison was too enthusiastic about the recordings and the idea of the human voice and did not address the key issue of the talk — not simply the power of telling but the power of telling something true.

"I loved listening to him play sound bytes that resonated with him, but I didn't feel like he connected them all under one overarching theme," said Astrid Schanz-Garbassi '12. "The talk was titled 'The Power of Telling Something True,' and I think I was expecting to come away with some sense of how to harness that power, or at least what that power is."



Courtesy of Middlebury College

Under the Raydar



When I'm at home — which is to say, my other home in Pennsylvania — I don't usually find myself hoarding all of the dishes from the kitchen in my room, leaving trash all over the floor, drunkenly shouting something derogatory at my neighbor while she minds her own business taking out the garbage or vomiting in the bathroom that I share with my family. Generally, I don't spill all over the floor and then complain that it is too dirty, yell "F*ck the police" when they have come to check out a neighborhood party and I have never — at least not yet — slammed a chair through a window, left the broken glass and pretended that the dog did it the next morning.

Why then, is this behavior, to a degree, excusable and excused here at our other home? Why don't we stop to consider the others around us?

The College is a place where we live, work, relax, party and spend a considerable amount of our time during four years of our lives. Why don't we respect the buildings, the campus and the people here as we do in our homes away from Middlebury?

The most immediate contributing theory is generalized and clichéd — and though it is very specific to this campus, this is not to say that these patterns do not exist elsewhere — but we live in "Club Midd," where everything we need is handed to us on a heavily endowed platter. While most of our peers in the country are working, or attend schools where they live off campus, grocery shop, cook and clean up their spaces, we get as much food as we want, laundry services, an understanding and friendly team of Public Safety officers and a custodial team in each dorm with individuals who work hard to keep our living environments safe and healthy. We have it more than pretty good here, and though we have smart, engaging and thoughtful people in our midst, we don't always treat Middlebury the way she treats us.

The difference between the College and a hotel and country club is that we are a constant and lasting community. When I am having a bad day, and I run into one of the members of my dorm's custodial team, a funny comment or a quick conversation can always cheer me up, calm me down and put me in a better mood. I've had professors ignore their piles of work to help me with mine, when I hadn't been paying attention during class. We are surrounded by people who work hard and who share a space with us — literally and academically — and I believe that we owe more respect to those with whom we share it.

Another problem comes from the anonymous nature of behavior: a comment hurled to a stranger at a party, a post on Midd Confessional, a disrespectful jot on a bulletin board. There is a strange and severe anonymity that can emerge in a place as small as this, so why is it so easy for some to act with little or no regard for the complex people who are direct or indirect subjects of disrespect or entitlement? Where is the sense of accountability?

At our other homes, we have to face consequences from our loved ones when we do something inconsiderate or damaging. I think we need to more actively take ownership of what we do here, and consider how it affects the others on our halls, in our community and across campus. We look for accountability in companies, leaders and friends, so why not look for it more in ourselves? Why not think about how when we leave here, not everything will be excused?

I confess that I have stolen a dish from the dining hall. I am sorry for contributing to a larger campus problem with that action.

But I will be sorrier to see members of this community continue to walk away from mistakes that we all can make, without so much as an apology, nod or thank you in the right direction.

Rachael Jennings '11 is from West Chester, Penn.

Students launch mock trial team

By Shannon Fiedler
STAFF WRITER

At a school filled with active learners and avid debaters, it is a wonder that this club has not existed until now. Pioneered by Kelsey Henry '14, the Mock Trial Club is in the process of becoming Middlebury's newest student organization.

"I did mock trial in high school and it was a big consideration in my college search," said Henry. "But, I ended up choosing a school which had no mock trial club."

Then, over Winter Term, Henry took "The Death Penalty in the United States, in Theory and Practice," a course culminating in a mock trial. After seeing the success of her class's final, Henry decided to try and put a mock trial club into motion and emailed the entire political science department to determine interest levels. To her delight, she received a good student response.

"I also did mock trial in high school," said Ben Anderson '14.5, "and I was really excited when I heard they were starting a team."

"I did it in high school as well," said Jay Plamondon '14, "and had a lot of fun."

But the club is not exclusively for those with previous experience. In fact, mock trial is encouraging those with no prior participation to attend meetings that, along with offering information about mock trials, always feature baked goods.

"I thought the idea had some real appeal," said Chris Inzerillo '13, who did not participate in mock trial in high school. "It seemed like it'd be a lot of fun, so I went to the first meeting and haven't stopped since. For people without experience, you learn a lot, it's easy to pick up and [it is] a lot of fun."

Mock trial teams are involved in intercollegiate competitions, governed by the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), an organization that sponsors regional and national-level competitions and provides an interesting, complex and fictional case for teams to address. The schools split up into teams of six or seven — with approximately three witnesses and three attorneys — and proceed with opening statements, directing their witnesses, cross-examining their opponents' and finishing with closing statements.

"Mock trial is an intellectual competition that requires you to think on your feet, and it's intense," said Henry.

"It's a good way to practice public speaking and thinking on your feet," said Anderson.

Every year AMTA selects one case for collegiate mock trial teams to focus on, giving students opportunities to examine the case from every angle and become truly invested in the process.

"There's something about getting into a case that's both challenging and really fun and you get to carry it out throughout the year," said Inzerillo.

"You definitely get really attached," said Anderson.

Unfortunately, the birth of the team came too late in the year to compete in AMTA's regional competitions. Still, the club is working hard to be ready for next year.

"We really hit the ground running," said Anderson.

"I'm trying to set up a sort of scrimmage invitational this spring to prep for next year," said Henry. "College mock trial is a huge step up from high school — it's an entirely different animal."

The club meetings, which are now every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in MBH 338, are relaxed and informative opportunities for members to get to know each other and learn the nuances of mock trial strategy.

"We come in, eat some cookies, talk about mock trial and then talk about the case and how we can use the elements of mock trial," said Henry. "And then we do some organizational stuff, because I'm wildly disorganized."

Due to its recent and somewhat untimely founding, the club is not yet generating the kind of momentum it would like.

"Our first meeting we had 16 people, but we've had a lot of attrition," said Henry.

"Seniors are hesitant since it's too late to do the case this year," said Inzerillo.

However, they are always looking for new members and encouraging anyone with interest to come to a meeting.

Mock Trial Club holds weekly meetings at 7 p.m. in Bi Hall 338

No country for Marlboro Men:

Student smokers feel judged, misunderstood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Library or the Axinn Center's entrance, a few stubborn people persist in lighting up.

The risks are hardly unknown — after all, the Surgeon General's warnings have been written on cigarette packs since 1970. According to the CDC's website, smoking substantially increases the risks of lung cancer, stroke, coronary heart disease and obstructive lung diseases like emphysema. As of 2011, the FDA is planning to issue new warnings on all cigarette packs graphically showing the dangers of smoking. One proposed image shows smoke billowing from a hole in a man's throat accompanied by the words "Warning: Cigarettes are Addictive" — another shows two healthy pink lungs next to a pair of browned, tumor-riddled ones. "Warning: Cigarettes cause fatal lung disease." But, says Assistant Professor of Sociology/Anthropology C. Winter Han, anyone smoking these days is hardly ignorant of the risk.

"We're not living in the 50s," said Han. "We've moved far beyond not knowing anything about cigarettes and the harm that it does ... There's not a single smoker at Middlebury who goes around saying that smoking is good for them."

First cigarettes and an anonymous habit

So who are the smokers at Middlebury, and why did they start? An informal survey, conducted by the *Campus*, revealed a varying range of ages in which students began to smoke. Often the question "When did you start smoking?" was answered with two numbers — the age people had their first cigarette, and the age when it became regarded as a habit. The majority of students who responded listed their first cigarettes as having happened in high school, mostly close to 15 or 16 years old — a couple of outliers listed 12 and 13. Many, however, picked up "habitual smoking" upon entering college — 17-19 was a popular age range.

The descriptions of first cigarettes are sometimes vivid, sometimes almost forgotten in the hundreds or thousands of smoke breaks taken since then. One junior told the story of buying her first pack of cigarettes — Marlboro 27s — at a gas station a few miles away from her house in Philadelphia, and then smoking it while barreling down the highway at 90 miles an hour with her friends, blasting music. Another, a senior, looked pensive when the question was put to him — he remembered the brand, but the circumstances seemed hazier: "Definitely a Djarum Black, probably with my friend Mark, who started smoking before I did ..."

Of the 10 smokers, both habitual and social, who were interviewed or surveyed for this article, all requested anonymity. The reasons varied, but were all some variation on a fear of being identified, publicly, as someone who smokes — one, an ex-smoking senior, cited fear of being judged for her opinions by her professors. Another mentioned the possibility of being refused a job because a future employer could Google her name and find it associated with an article on smoking. Even for those who identified as "social smokers," that reluctance to be publicly identified remains.

"[In] my drugs class, I ask, 'How many of you are smokers?' and no one raises their hand," said Rebecca Tiger, assistant professor of sociology/anthropology, when interviewed on smoking culture at Middlebury College. "I ask, 'How many of you has had a cigarette in the past month?' and many people raise their hand, but they won't identify as smokers."

Tiger teaches a course on the sociology of drugs. When asked why it was that so many of the smokers interviewed refused to have their names included in this article, she cited the current prevailing attitudes towards smoking, coupled with Middlebury's general obsession with health.

"We live in a culture that demands a strong negative response," said Tiger. "There's nothing good to be said about cigarettes. We're so opposed to cigarettes that we can't say anything but they're terrible, they're vile, that if you smoke you're addicted. We can't say that there's any pleasure in smoking. I think partly that people say that they're addicted [to smoking] because they can't say anything else. If you say, 'Because I like it,' then they won't let you off the hook."

Social smokers hold a peculiar identity. A 2005 study on college campuses by Susan Kenford and others indicated that over a four-year period, one in five social smokers become daily smokers, though, by the same token, four do not. They tend to receive the brunt of the same prejudices that smokers do.

"We still don't have an idea that you can maintain social smoking," said Tiger. "We think it's the path down to addiction."

For that matter, the exact characteristics of a social smoker are often under contention. One senior surveyed noted that asking the question "Habitual or social smoker?" was a false choice.

"I don't really think this distinction is valid," said the senior. "I smoke habitually, but I almost always do so with other people who smoke ... I occasionally go days, weeks and even months without smoking ... Other times I smoke everyday — up to about half a pack a day — for weeks or months at a time."

Why students smoke

A lot of the motivation for smoking at Middlebury appears to be a combination both of a desire to connect and also to de-

stress. Almost all of the students interviewed cited a major factor for starting smoking was that a lot of their friends at the time also smoked — and at Middlebury, for many this remains the case. For the junior who started smoking Marlboro 27s, smoking provides a means to identify new friends.

"Or at least, [to identify] a potentially interesting person," said the junior. "If someone is a smoker, they know how to deal with contradiction, internal and external. That's fun!"

A first-year offered another reason.

"I like the social aspect of it at parties, and the buzz it gives me when I have been drinking."

"I think people forget that groups do form around shared activities, and about interactions that are facilitated by something other than what is there," said Han. "In my classes [that] go for three hours, and there's a break in the middle... the kids who smoke, all go out together and immediately start interacting with each other. People form bonds over both good things and bad things, and we ignore that smoking allows people to form a connection in a very short period of time."

The other reason is that smoking relieves stress, a fact cited by almost everyone interviewed. More than that, though, it is often regarded as a pleasure. Tiger recommended a book titled

We're human beings too ... I'm not just a smoker. I'm a person who smokes."

— a senior student



Cigarettes Are Sublime by Richard Klein — a book she requires for her sociology of drugs class. In the introduction, Klein notes that to put cigarette smoking down to simple addiction is to fundamentally misunderstand the act: "The fact of addiction itself explains nothing. After all, millions choose to stop, or never start. Becoming addicted and continuing to smoke implies a persistent desire to find some pleasure, some benefit in the drug."

He goes on to point out that "it is not the utility of cigarettes, however significantly useful they may be ... Rather, the quality that explains their enormous power of seduction is linked to the specific forms of beauty that they foster."

Cigarettes are Sublime is not a pro-smoking text by any means — it is a book devoted to understanding the practice of smoking from the perspective of someone who has quit. "Whatever else you want to say about tobacco, it gives people an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the pleasures of the moment/ the conversation/each other's company," said the senior who pointed out the false distinction between social and habitual smokers, when asked why he continued to smoke. "Far too often I think the enjoyable nature of smoking tobacco gets left out as our discourse becomes increasingly dominated by the 'dangers' of cigarettes. The fact that you would feel the need to ask this question might be a testament to this."

The evolution of attitudes towards smoking

It has not always been this way. In the 20 years since Tiger was in college, she has noticed a change in the way we view substance and substance abuse in our culture.

"I study drugs, but more than that I study the way that we talk about drugs," said Tiger. "Over the past 20 years, we've really moved away from allowing people that meaning [to be found in using drugs]."

But the discovery of the harms of second-hand smoke, she acknowledges, changed many of the attitudes people hold towards smoking.

"The idea is that if you're smoking, you're harming other people, and if you're harming

other people you lose all sympathy," said Tiger.

Like many places, Middlebury used to allow smoking everywhere — in classrooms, lecture halls, dorms and dining halls. But as the secondhand smoke research started to trickle in, it was gradually banned — first in classrooms, then in buildings, in dorms and now, finally, where signs that forbid smoking near building entrances hover next to ashtrays. The policies were not changed without resistance, but people who smoke have more or less accepted this reality now, though the signs outside of building entrances seem to be treated generally with disdain.

"I apologize if my smoking bothers you, or [if I] accidentally blew smoke [towards you], but I'm also standing outside in this freezing Vermont winter when I could just as easily be inside my room," said the senior who started smoking Djarum Blacks, when asked if there was anything he wanted to tell nonsmokers.

He went on to express an opinion that was echoed by many who were interviewed.

"Frankly, you walking through a smoky area for two seconds ... won't give you cancer."

For people who smoke, at least, the dangers of secondhand smoke seem to engender exaggerated responses in people who do not smoke, especially when compared to other common activities that have detrimental effects, such as drinking.

In that vein, anti-smoking campaigns are also controversial. While almost all of the smokers interviewed planned on quitting by graduation, they also noted that it was fundamentally an extremely personal choice.

At best, "some educational initiatives that don't try to tell me what to do remind me that it's unhealthy," said one senior. At worst? "When [anti-smoking campaigns] are too in your face it just makes me want to say 'F*** you' and keep smoking."

Last cigarettes and calculating risk

If a student does choose to quit, it seems to be a process of tiny revelations. One ex-smoker interviewed, a senior Feb, described sitting on a flight to Capetown, South Africa, and having a moment of clarity.

"I realized that I had been smoking since eighth grade and I was 21 years old ... at this point in our lives, what can you say you've done for six years?" said the senior Feb. "I had been smoking for six years, and that was the first moment that I really wanted to stop."

She did not quit then, but stopped for a while. After trying Nicorette and dating a boy who would not allow her to smoke around him, she came back home to a group of friends who smoked and picked up the habit again. And then, she says, when she came back in the fall, quitting stuck.

"I smoked for the first couple of weekends, and then was like, 'I don't need this in my life, I don't need this, I just want to be healthy,'" said the senior Feb. "So I quit this past fall."

So if anti-smoking campaigns are largely ineffective, and quitting is ultimately a personal decision, it seems like smoking on Middlebury campus is here to stay. For many smokers, it boils down to what Han terms "calculated risk." When asked why smokers choose to start, he fiddled with a Slim Jim, smiling.

"I think we all make sort of calculated decisions in what risks are ... I mean, I tend to eat Slim Jims a lot, and I know this is garbage. And I'm engaging in a behavior where that's calculating the risk."

It is often hard, with a subject so fraught with passion, to find common ground between smokers and nonsmokers. But something that the Djarum Black senior mentioned seems like a fitting conclusion. When asked what he would like nonsmokers to know about the subject of smoking, he replied: "We're human beings too, I've got a mom and a dad and a little sister. I'm not just a smoker, I'm a person who smokes."



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The Middlebury Campus

"Everyone Can Dance"

with the Big Action Performance Ensemble

by Eliza Wallace

On Friday, March 18, Tiffany Rhynard, artistic director of Big Action Performance Ensemble (Big APE) dance, introduced the troupe's most recent performance in the Town Hall Theater in downtown Middlebury with the following rules: everything is intentional, and the piece will be performed as it was intended, even if everything goes wrong, everyone is in some way responsible for the outcome of this piece, everything that can happen will happen, everyone is different and yet they are the same, and everyone can dance.

In establishing a sort of meta-movement relationship with the audience right from the start, the performance took on a completely new format that was unlike anything the audience had probably ever known and unlike anything they would ever know again. The dancers in front of the audience had become a community in the last four weeks, and now the audience was invited with open arms to join their dance family. The usually effaced and hidden audience found the spotlights turned on them, and keeping in mind the freedom bestowed by Rhynard's five rules, the rest of the night took flight. It was an experience of sheer joy, transmitted through the spirit of dance that filled the theater.

Another way Rhynard blatantly and delightfully broke the fourth wall of dance in this performing experiment was by giving the audience a vote on certain artistic choices in the piece. For Rhynard's solo, they were asked to pick her costume and her music from two choices in each category. On Friday night, they decided that Rhynard should wear an orange jumpsuit and dance to a classical piece of music. For the performance on the following night, those choices could have changed; what happened in the Friday night performance was entirely unique. The audience could tell that whatever happened would never happen again, and they sat forward in their seats so they wouldn't miss a moment of it.

The performance was made up of different sections of many permutations of dancer groups. Some sections consisted of original Big APE members, some of different community dancers and some of both types of dancers combined. The show moved quickly and drew everyone along for the ride. There were slower movements without being boring, and all who experienced it were clearly having a grand time all the way through. One adorable piece involved a little girl doing a comical duet with her father; another was a powerful dance of masculine bravado and energy by four young men. Comically, an all-corps section was initiated with Rhynard's shout, "Are you guys ready for a little techno squaredance?"

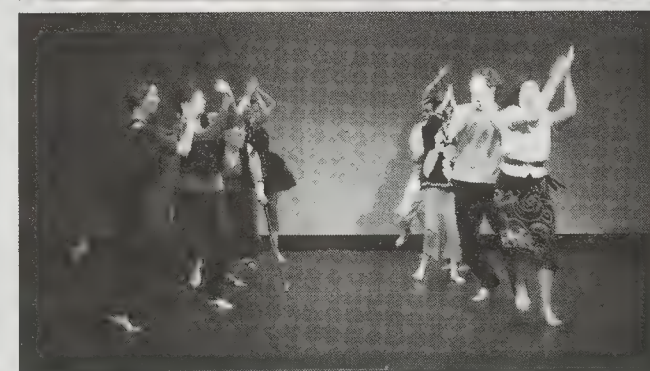
The meta-theme continued in an intriguing section in which the dancers spoke out loud the movement they were about to dance, so while they rolled their shoulders, they said "Roll my

shoulder." Much of the work was very unlike the closed-off, mystical modern dance style full of heavy breathing and floor scraping. Instead, this was about playing with those ideas and giving them to people whose dance comes from a more natural place of un-trained beauty and magic.

The costumes made for a wildly colorful stage, seeming to consist of the most vibrantly patterned clothes found in the participants' closets. They were sometimes visually jarring and clashed with the more solemn sections, but generally the pieces were suitably lighthearted for the bright clothing. The makeshift "I-got-dressed-in-the-dark" ensembles also served as another rebuff of the stereotypical dance image of sleek uniformity. The rumpled, varied looks of the group enhanced the man-off-the-street personality of the entire show and implied that each person got to have fun picking out a wild costume that would be most comfortable for them.

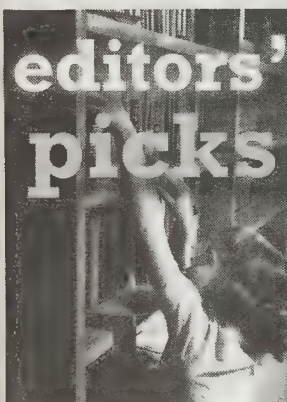
The music was an entire treat on its own, with Philippe Bronchtein '10 DJing everything from pulsing electronic dance beats to a live performance of his original composition under the name Hip Hatchet. During the acoustic Hip Hatchet song, one of the most moving and beautiful moments of the piece took place, where dancers asked people from the audience to come up on stage for a slow dance with them. The couples waltzed around a darkened stage to the music's deep and melancholy voice. Another breathtaking moment appeared near the end, when the music became "The Swan" by Camille Saint-Saens and an elderly couple emerged from the audience and went up on stage, dancing together in a way that only two people who have been together for years and years can achieve.

Through much of the performance, I turned around in my seat to see the faces of the audience. I saw tears, I saw smiles, I saw engagement. "Everyone Can Dance" not only integrated the dancers who were committed to weeks of rehearsal, but it also made everyone in the room a participant, both emotionally and physically. The show included many surprises: at one point, a catchy remix of Michael Jackson's music filled the room, and the audience sat bobbing heads and blinking at an empty stage for a while until someone suddenly bounded down from the audience and broke into a high-spirited solo inspired by the King of Pop. The biggest surprise came at the performance's end when the entire audience was encouraged to get out of their seats in the grand finale, a demonstration of the show's ultimate mission. Audience members poured out of their seats and the stage was filled with a complete dancing family of moving bodies. From the audience reaction and participation, Rhynard and Big APE successfully proved that everyone can dance.



Photos by Andrew Podrygala

The Big Action Performance Ensemble (Big APE) ended their residency at the College on Friday, March 18, with a performance at the Town Hall Theater.



editors' picks

02

The White Ribbon
Dana Auditorium
3 and 8 p.m.

Michael Haneke's latest film tells the tale of a small village in the north of Germany just before World War I, with the suppressed children of the villagers at the heart of an unraveling mystery. Free.

04

Middlebury College Choir
Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Recently returned from San Francisco, Oakland, Monterey and Portola Valley, College Choir brings a dynamic tour program home, including motets by Jan Sweelinck, Duruflé and Johannes Brahms as well as international compositions. Tickets \$10/8/6.

05

Residency with Teena Marie Custer
Dance Theatre
9:30 a.m.

A b-girl and hip hop dance theater artist, Teena Marie Custer introduces students to various dance styles such as house, hip-hop and b-boying/b-girling. Other classes available at 3 p.m. and April 6 at 4:30 p.m. Free.

05

Lunch and Discussion: Eurydice
Seeler Studio Theatre
12:30 p.m.

Director Alex Draper '88 introduces the play and leads a discussion about the upcoming production; members of the cast and crew share insights on their work. Lunch is provided.



by Santiago Azpurua-Borras

Game | Ghost Trick
Platform | Nintendo DS
Rating | Teen

One of my favorite franchises of all time is *Ace Attorney*, a visual novel series focusing on the wacky cases of a defense attorney. Once a Japan-exclusive, the series made quite a splash on the western market recently with its colorful and memorable characters, amazingly written story arcs and beautiful animation. When I heard that the same studio that produced the *Ace Attorney* series was releasing an entirely new, original project, I immediately jumped aboard the *S.S. Ghost Trick*.

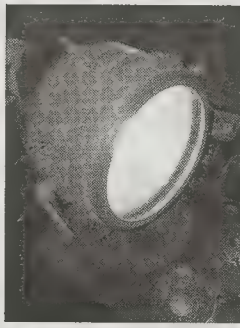
Ghost Trick places the player in the role of ... well, I can't reveal your character's name because it's an important aspect of the plot, but what I can reveal is that the game opens with your character being recently deceased. You now find yourself as a ghost and only have one night to figure out who killed you and why. On your journey you will encounter other characters that you must help with the use of your "ghost tricks." These "tricks" involve you interacting with the environment via possession of inanimate objects, and are the only actions you can make as a ghost. Each inanimate object can then do something in particular; possessing a bell will make it ring, for example. The larger puzzles of the game require you to string multiple tricks together and in the correct order, so you can save the lives of other characters that are important to the plot.

The portraits of the various characters are flat-out gorgeous, as are the animations. I would seriously consider just watching the game move on its own for hours. Since it is a DS title, there is no voice acting so there will be a lot of text to read. Like I said in my review of 999 (another visual novel game), if you don't like to read, go play something else. The game's script is a great combination of humor and murder mystery, and some very crazy twists appear. It provides a satisfactory ending, even if it is a little open-ended.

My only real complaint of *Ghost Trick* is the sudden difficulty spikes. Most of the puzzles will provide just the right amount of challenge, but all of a sudden you will stumble on one that you will consistently fail. While I never had to use a walkthrough, there were times when I had to put the game down for a while and go do something else.

While no contender against the *Ace Attorney* games, *Ghost Trick* still offers a unique adventure with beautiful visuals. If you have a DS, why not distract yourself with this game on the trip home this spring break?

Ghost Trick gets an 8/10.

By Eliza Wallace
STAFF WRITER

Did Ariel Ritchin's '11 vibrant photographs catch your eye on the way to your mailbox through the McCullough Social Space last month? How about the art on the walls at 51 Main during the last Spoken Word? Do you have your own artwork that you want on display? The person responsible for bringing student art to public spaces around the Middlebury campus is Mica Schlosser '13, a history major and studio art minor from New York City. She currently holds the CCAL-maintained position of student curator, and recently discussed the nuts and bolts of her job, her role in the campus arts dialogue and how much she wants to hang your work.

The Campus: What are the spaces on campus that you curate?

Mica Schlosser: I'm in charge of the gallery space in McCullough which [includes] the Juice Bar downstairs and the center gallery upstairs, and the galleries at 51 Main and Old Stone Mill.

MC: Why did this job interest you?

MS: I interned for a sculptor over the summer and we worked on installing his pieces in a gallery and it was ... a fun process and [I realized] how much artwork changes in an actual space. So I saw the [student curator] job was available and I figured it would be an interesting way to meet artists on campus and try to get their work displayed.

MC: What are some recent exhibits you have installed?

MS: Well we just put up Jenny Marks' '14 photographs downstairs in McCullough and upstairs are Andrew Podrygula's '12. We're putting up Sabina Holloway's '13 work in the Old Stone Mill Gallery and we just had Ethan Schmertzler '12 in 51 Main. He does his own fashion magazine called *The Collegiate* so we did ... spreadsheets of his publication. Today we're installing for the environmental group on campus, the Sunday Night Group, with Janet Bering '13 and Jenny Marks again, so they're going to do a lot of different student work that all pertains to the environment.

MC: So do you only put up student artwork?

MS: So far I've only done student artwork; we had one professional photographer at 51 Main at the beginning of the year, and I'm going to try to do an outsider art show at the end of the year, working with patients from Helen Porter [Healthcare and

Rehabilitation Center] so we'll see if that comes together ... but the galleries are mainly for student use, and it's a way for them to show artwork, though you don't have to be in an art class [to show your work], so [there isn't] that restriction.

MC: Where should students go if they want to exhibit their work?

MS: They should contact me or Doug Adams through the CCAL office and then we ... set up an interview and try to schedule in a time for them to show their work, so it's a very approachable process.

MC: Who are some interesting people on campus you get to interact with in this job?

MS: I think just learning about everything going on at the Old Stone Mill has been great because there [are] so many people who are working on interesting projects completely in their free time — it's not a part of their major. There've been a lot of artists who are interdisciplinary, [for example] we're putting up one artist later in the year who's a neuroscience major and his artwork pertains to the brain. It's just fascinating how people bring in interests in other subjects to their work, which I feel ... is really unique to Middlebury.

MC: What is the most challenging part of your job?

MS: I think the actual installation because I don't know totally what I'm doing when I'm hanging things, but it's definitely a bonding experience and I think it helps the artist learn how to put up their own work, too, because we're working together.

MC: When you put up students' work, do you often think, "This is definitely a future artist who is going to really 'make it' out there after Middlebury"?

MS: That's interesting. I feel like a lot of the people putting up work don't consider it their main focus, but rather, something they love to do, so I think there are a lot of people here who will do art for the rest of their lives and I'm not sure if it will be their career but it's definitely a passion they'll pursue.

MC: What's the most rewarding part of your job?

MS: I would say just getting to interact with really interesting people who are so self-motivated and creative and really inspiring to me to do my own work.

MC: What goals or projects do you want to accomplish? Are there certain spaces that you'd like to curate that you don't

currently?

MS: Yeah, I think just trying to get the position to be more well-known, that people can show their work and that it is accessible. Right now we're trying to get a boulder put in front of McCullough to have it painted every year, so that's the project on the horizon right now. [Also we're] trying to keep up the dialogue between different art departments on campus. We just want as many people as possible to show their work and [trying to have] a lot of turnaround so there's always something new on the walls.

MC: What's your favorite either student artist or exhibit that you've put up?

MS: I think I'm going to be diplomatic and say they've all been great for different reasons.

MC: Do you have a favorite professional artist?

MS: I would say Kara Walker because she really fuses history, social justice and art together in this beautiful way so she's really inspiring to me. I love Norman Rockwell. I also love the impressionist painters because my mom is a painter so I grew up really looking at that era.

MC: What's your favorite space on campus?

MS: I love McCullough. I'm always in there, and I think especially now with the new Crossroads Café, it just is a really nice space to be in and work in.

MC: What's your favorite museum in the real world?

MS: That's a hard question. Probably the Met in New York just because there's so much to look at. I could spend days in there.

MC: Does being an art curator interest you as a potential career after college?

MS: I think it's something that I'm considering but right now, it's just a fun thing to do on campus and I'm not sure if I would want to devote my life to it, but it's definitely an interest.

[If you are interested in exhibiting work, contact Mica Schlosser at aschlosser@middlebury.edu or Doug Adams at dadams@middlebury.edu. In particular, she is looking for work to be displayed at the Crossroads Café and for an artist to show work at 51 Main this April and May Mica would like to credit her roommate, Caitlin Ludlow '13, for leading her to the open Student Curator job posting.]

Mica Schlosser '13 Student Art Curator

What you've seen... Fall '10

McCullough:

- Faezeh Mohammadpour and Mahnaz Rezaie: photographs of Afghanistan
- Ariel Ritchin: photographs of friends in their favorite location with their favorite object

51 Main:

- Taryn Tilton: paintings of friends
- Solar Decathlon architectural drawings

Old Stone Mill:

- All-tenant show

Various Locations:

- Collaboration with Helen Porter "Memories in the Making"

What you're seeing... Spring '11

McCullough:

- Andrew Podrygula: photographs of Washington DC
- Jenny Marks: photographs of Cambodia

51 Main:

- Ethan Schmertzler, *Collegiate Fashion Magazine* (February)
- Janet Bering and Jenny Marks with SNG, collaborative art show (March)

Old Stone Mill:

- Sabina Holloway, drawings, photographs and journal entries on her trip to India (March)

What you'll see... Future Semesters

McCullough:

- Student artwork in Crossroads Café

Old Stone Mill:

- Marcella Maki '14: sustainable fashion (first week of April)
- Nerissa Khan '12: collaborative show on urbanism (mid-April)
- Beth Foster '11, collaborative community art show (end of April/beginning of May)

Various Locations:

- Evan Masseau '11, six plexiglass panels on the brain (April)
- Collaboration with Helen Porter "Memories in the Making" group (May)

Steel '11 performs one-man show as senior 700 project

By Charles Giardina
STAFF WRITER

If religion is the opiate of the masses, then Reilly Steel '11 is the crack of the American People, as proven in his performance of *Drinking in America*. The one-man show by Eric Bogosian explores various characters' reliance on drugs and alcohol as a mechanism for coping with society today. Reilly plays all of the characters, showing off his wide range as an actor in his strong and distinct choices for each character. Through a flurry of white powder he lets us (or forces us) to peer into the heart of America.

The show began with Steel reading from what was allegedly his father's college journal. As the reading goes on, Reilly was transformed into the character of his father on an acid trip. After being turned down by a "hot" woman, he concluded, "that [he] must be the kind of man that women find irresistible."

The first skit prepared the audience for an unorthodox form of theory where the lines between actor and character, character and audience and theater and reality blurred into a Technicolor haze.

The next setting was New York City, brought to us by a homeless man swigging deep on Carlo Rossi and spouting delusions of grandeur, not to mention some choice

obscenities, at a couple in a Cadillac. Steel encapsulated both the sharp charm as well as the ugliness of poverty, deftly avoiding the romanticized happy beggars of, say, *My Fair Lady*. We feel empathy for this powerless man grasping at the American Dream by drinking himself into oblivion.

Another scene that stood out was that of a mild-mannered middle-aged man also living out his piece of the American Dream. He addressed the audience directly, listing off all the reasons why his life was great. As the list went on, what was a hint of satisfaction turned into devastating discontent with the American Dream. He revealed himself as the myopic little man that he was with comments such as, "I make myself watch [the news] because I know I should. For their sake." Steel approached us with an uncomfortable view of the life that no doubt many of us will choose.

Steel introduced us to a quiet-spoken heroin addict armed with anger and a rural accent. Though the darkest and quietest of the pieces compiled in *Drinking in America*, it was also one of the most intense. It was one of the roles that brought Reilly farthest away from himself, but he played it with such faithfulness, and without commentary, so that I was entranced by the story of a man who finds his only peace in heroin.

The heroin addict was eventually re-

placed by a fire-and-brimstone preacher, who broke the serene high with chilling lines such as, "If you have to take a bottle, fill it up with gasoline, light it on fire, throw it into one of these abortion clinics, then do it." The simplicity with which Steel played the madness was seductive. Even so, he lacked perhaps all of the gravitas of a real preacher capable of selling any ideology over the radio in 10 minutes. Steel did succeed in giving us access to the language, which made the scene very satiating.

The show concluded with Steel bringing everyone onstage to dance as he emceed a heavy metal concert. As we danced with him, he overdosed and passed out after a dramatic seizure. This ending was a stroke of genius in that it forced us to live in the world he created in the production.

Steel did a masterful job with *Drinking in America* and has hopefully started a trend of groundbreaking one-man shows. The show was originally slated to go up at 51 Main but scheduling issues prevented it. 51 Main might have actually been a better location because even the Zoo felt a little formal for the material. This production worked because the truthfulness of Steel's acting style allowed him to present a grim but honest snapshot of America without superfluous social commentary. I was sobered by his skillful portrayal of inebriation.



Sopheak Cheng

Reilly Steel '11 performs *Drinking in America*.

Clemmons leads St. Patrick's Day concert

By Kelsi Morgan
STAFF WRITER

Three kilt-wearing, bagpipe-playing men filed into the concert hall at the Mahaney Center for the Arts on Friday, March 18, starting off the St. Patrick's Day Concert in style. Middlebury's Alexander Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemmons joined them, dressed for the occasion in a kelly-green shirt, black suspenders, a black kilt, tall yellow polka dot socks and a black beret fitted with a crown. Clemmons created the event, which celebrated its eighth anniversary this year.

"I started this series of concerts because, [as] I looked around when I arrived in

Middlebury as Alexander Twilight Artist-in-Residence, I didn't hear or see a broad way of celebrating this wonderful holiday except by going to a local bar and drinking green beer," Clemmons said. "After only one beer, that's no fun to me!"

After its first year, the event progressively expanded to include more students and community members. Bagpiper Andy Collins '12 has been a part of the St. Patrick's Day Concert for three years, but Friday night's event was not his first of the year.

"My favorite piping performance at Middlebury is when I commit 'random acts of piping' around campus on St. Patrick's Day each year," he said.

Collins also had more to celebrate than just St. Patrick's Day on Friday. After giving the audience a brief welcome to the event, Clemmons invited everyone to sing "Happy Birthday" to Collins, who turned 21.

The concert formally began with Affiliate Artist Tim Cummings, Elias Alexander '12 and Collins playing traditional Irish songs on bagpipes. Local Celtic harpist Margie Bekoff later joined Clemmons onstage.

Discussing his song choice,

Clemmons described the personal connection he feels with Irish music.

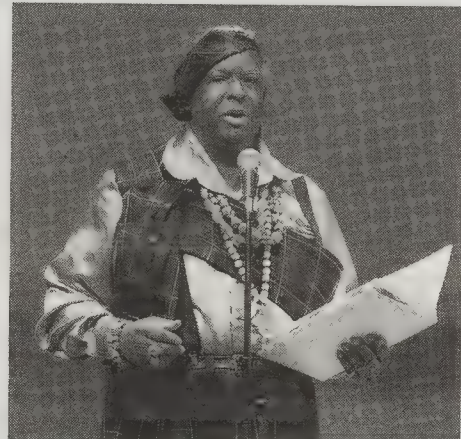
"I feel that these songs are a not-so-distant cousin to American Negro Spirituals," he said. "Both peoples have suffered a great deal, but nevertheless embody a universal and powerful message of hope."

Bekoff performed solo pieces, followed by singer Carol Christensen and pianist Cynthia Huard's renditions of traditional Irish music. Cummings and Alexander then played bellows-pipes and whistles.

Next came a change of pace, as local guitarist David Moore and fiddler Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki '08 entered. Moore and Tirrell-Wysocki prefaced their music with an instruction to the audience to imagine that they were in an Irish pub. He encouraged the audience to take an active part in the music, and to feel free to express their connection with it in whichever ways they desired. The crowd willingly complied, clapping their hands and yelling out at particularly moving points.

After a sing-along portion led by Clemmons, Alexandra Siega '12.5, the 2006 Irish Dancing National Champion, took the stage to perform.

"I love being able to share my passion with the community, and to contribute in my own way to Middlebury's cultural diversity," she said.



Photos by Sopheak Cheng

Francois Clemmons performed on Mar. 18.

As the evening drew to a close, Clemmons bid farewell to the audience. Reflecting on this concert and many others, Clemmons expressed deep gratitude for his position within the College community.

"I feel that I've been given a lot of leeway by our administration to be creative and involved on campus as well as in the larger Vermont community," he said. "I love this job."

After the concert, Connor Wakayma '14 expressed similar sentiments, when he said, "The Irish culture is not one I'm extremely familiar with, but it has a way of moving the heart to dance and sing."



Andy Collins '12, Elias Alexander '12 and Affiliate Artist Tim Cummings opened the show with bagpipe music.

Silverstein '11 captivates with music, voice

By Ben Anderson
STAFF WRITER

With a single yet powerful voice and a captivating stage presence, Noah Silverstein '11 enthralled his audience this past Sunday during his senior recital, performing as a pianist, a tenor and a countertenor. Silverstein first came on stage as a vocalist, accompanied on piano by Professor of Music Greg Vitercik and performing pieces by such composers as Fauré, Berger and Handel. Even without reading about it in the program, one could tell Silverstein has had musical theater experience. While the bulk of his repertoire was composed of classical pieces, Silverstein did not just sing his recital — he performed it. His enthusiastic expressions and gifted body language conveyed the very essence of the music and though he sang in three different languages, the emotion of each song came through with full intensity. Silverstein's voice was strong without being forceful, carrying itself throughout the concert hall on the back of

the wonderful piano accompaniment.

Silverstein transitioned from singing to piano for the final portion of the performance. His playing was remarkably fluid and as he sat in front of the piano, it appeared as if he was in a trance, captivated by the music. Silverstein comes across as a true musician, fully engaged in his music and, as with his singing, conveying much of the beauty of his art through his body language.

The highlights of the night were his countertenor pieces, all by Handel, and his rendition of Beethoven's Piano Sonata in F minor. Singing as a countertenor requires a technique where the performer sings in falsetto, producing a range equivalent to an alto. In the pieces performed by Silverstein, the countertenor was used to come closer to the castrato voice for which the pieces were originally intended without recreating it exactly. Silverstein's countertenor voice conveyed just as much, if not more, enthusiasm and emotion.

The final piece of the night was one of

Beethoven's piano sonatas. Silverstein's rendition of this technically and artistically challenging piece was delivered with energy and passion, reaching levels of almost transcendent violence in some passages.

After the performance, I got a chance to sit down and talk with Silverstein for a bit about his performance and his experiences with music both at Middlebury and in his life in general. Speaking with Silverstein, it was easy to tell that he is incredibly passionate about all forms of music. He has been playing piano since he was a small child and has been singing in choirs most of his life, but only started training as a solo voice performer at the College. Silverstein praised the Music Department for their support, which started even before he was enrolled.

"I remember sitting in on classes and meeting with the music faculty," Silverstein said. "I felt instantly at home and have continued to feel so during my four years here."

He added that the Music Department has

been incredibly supportive of all his endeavors, from playing piano and singing to performing in multiple musicals and operas. While at the College, Silverstein has also worked as a composer, most recently completing a fifteen-minute requiem for orchestra and choir.

Alongside music, Silverstein is also a joint neuroscience-music major and is currently deciding between a research job in Boston and a position in a neuroscience Ph.D. program at Cambridge University. Though his immediate career interests do not involve music, Silverstein anticipates his continued involvement.

"Music is an incredibly important part of my life and I can't imagine myself going through a single day without music," he said. "I'll always continue studying piano and voice."

One can only hope that his studies and performances do continue, as he has already proven himself to be a talented and promising musician, a gift that will only continue to flourish.

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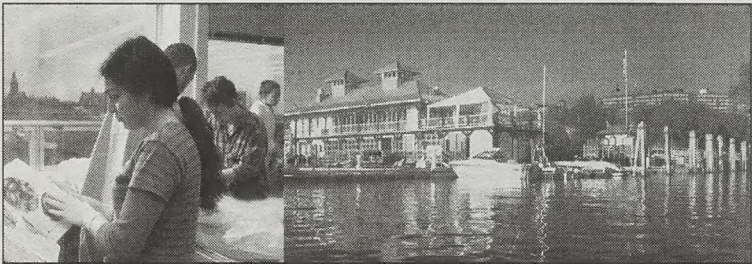
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Men's basketball loses by two in its first Final Four

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

ing on all nine of their three point attempts. "They cranked up defensively and I have to give St. Thomas credit" said head coach Jeff Brown.

Meanwhile, the Tommies made four of their seven three point attempts, shooting 41 percent from the floor on the top-ranked defensive team in the tournament.

Unlike the first, the second half proved to be a series of runs and droughts by both teams. Middlebury scored the first three shots of the half, cutting the lead to just one. However, the Tommies struck right back, going on a 9-0 run of their own thanks to four points from Tommy Hannon to take an eight point lead, the largest of the game.

The Panthers quickly responded, going on a seven minute, 18-3 run which found Jake Wolfin '13 and Nolan Thompson '13 finding Middlebury's three point stroke while the team took a 50-43 lead.

Slowly chipping away with lockdown defense, the Tommies found themselves ahead by five with just a minute remaining in the contest.

However, Middlebury was still not done. After an enormous three by Thompson cut the lead to two, Senior Jamal Davis '11 stole the ball with 16 seconds remaining, giving the Panthers one last chance.

Following a timeout, the Panthers tried their best to get the ball inside to Sharry for the tie. Denied by the Tommies, Thompson shot one last three for the win as the buzzer sounded, barely missing as the ball clanked off the front of the rim. St Thomas escaped with a 59-57 victory as the Panthers incredible season came to an end.

Despite the loss, the Panthers season has been quite a historic one. The team finished a school best 28-2, reaching the sweet 16, elite eight and final four for the first time in school history.

On an individual note, Ryan Sharry became just the second player in school history, after Ben Rudin, to receive All-American honors. The Panthers say goodbye to Davis, Andrew Locke '11, Ryan Wholey '11 and Andrew Plumley '11 this season, yet return with a group of players ready to continue the success that has come to mark Middlebury Basketball.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
3/18	Men's Basketball	St. Thomas	59-57 L	The Panthers, along with fellow NESCACer Williams, fell while competing for a spot in the NCAA championship game.
3/18 3/19	Women's Hockey	R.I.T. Gustavus Adolphus	5-2 L 5-0 W	After losing in the quarterfinals, the women's hockey team came back and took third in the D-III NCAA tournament.
3/19	Women's Lacrosse	Wesleyan	15-5 W	The Panthers were able to easily pull away from Wesleyan, winning their second game in a row.
3/16 3/19	Men's Lacrosse	Springfield Wesleyan	13-9 W 9-8 L	David Hild '11 was named NESCAC Player of the Week after scoring nine goals in just two games.
3/19	Women's Tennis	Rochester	9-0 W	The women's tennis team advanced to 3-0 after its second shutout of the season against Rochester on Saturday.

BY THE NUMBERS

9	Number of goals men's lacrosse co-captain David Hild '11 scored in last week's games.
10	Number of goals women's lacrosse beat Wesleyan by last weekend.
2	Number of points 13th-seeded Princeton lost to fourth-seeded Kentucky by in the first round of March Madness.
2	Number of points the Panthers lost to St. Thomas by in the semifinals of NCAA D-III Championships.
4	Number of NCAA tournaments played in by this year's class of men's basketball seniors.

Editors' Picks

Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Brooks Coe	Dillon Hupp	Alex Edel
Will softball's record be over .500 after its trip to Clermont, Fla.?	YES I answered no to this question last year and I was wrong, so now I'm gonna go with yes.	YES And for the rest of the season, too.	YES These girls have been on the upswing for a couple of seasons now.	YES I really have no idea but they have been training really hard so I am hopeful.
Who will come out on top at the end of March Madness?	DUKE In sixth grade, I wanted to play Duke basketball. Oh how the times have changed.	OHIO ST. If my college basketball advisor doesn't start getting these right, I'm gonna fire him.	KANSAS If Duke wins I will never watch college basketball again.	OHIO ST. Things are looking good for them.
What will the women's lacrosse team's record be when we get back from Spring Break?	5-2 I seriously regret betting against these girls for the past two weeks. Consider this an apology.	5-2 I was on the fence about this, but I'm gonna stick with the optimistic guess.	6-1 That schedule looks softer than the Celtics' frontcourt.	5-2 They have been playing really well lately so I think that this is a safe bet.
Which MLB team will have the best regular-season record when the next issue goes to print?	YANKEES Hip-hip Jorge!	PHILLIES They have the Astros and the Mets at home. With that pitching staff? All shutouts.	PHILLIES They have four automatic wins every time out with their rotation.	PHILLIES Had to have someone help on this one.
Who will lead the men's lacrosse team in goals scored after the break?	HILD '11 Not even a question.	DAVID HILD '11 Is there any other plausible option? He's leading by nine right now!	DAVID HILD '11 This one is a no-brainer. He's on fire.	DAVID HILD '11 He had nine goals in two games. Not exactly a hard question.
Career Record	85-66 (.563)	31-52 (.440)	55-38 (.591)	18-12 (.600)

Panthers suffer first loss of season in OT

By Galen Carroll
STAFF WRITER

After holding off a scrappy, out-of-conference Springfield team on Wednesday afternoon at Kohn Field, the fifth-ranked men's lacrosse team traveled to Wesleyan on Saturday to play the then 4-0 Cardinals. In Connecticut, 29 seconds into the first overtime period, Middlebury suffered its first defeat, falling to 2-1 on the season and 1-1 in conference play. In the process, Wesleyan avenged a 12-5 regular season defeat at the hands of Middlebury last year.

Coming off an impressive five goal performance just three days prior, the squad's leading scorer and this week's NESCAC Player of the Week, David Hild '11 faced stiff resistance from the Wesleyan defensive zone in the form of individualized preparation and aggressive sliding—special treatment he can expect from defenses all season long.

Not to be denied, the senior co-captain netted four of his team's eight goals as well as an assist. With the aid of fellow starting attack men, Mike Giordano '13 and Tim Cahill '12,

who complement his brute strength with innovative mobility and field awareness, Hild kept the team within reach the entire game. With 9:41 left in the fourth quarter, Cahill dove across the face of net, slipping his second equalizing shot past the Wesleyan goalkeeper and forcing the final deadlock.

Although the Panther midfield core found the back of the net early with two goals from John McGoldrick '14 and Erich Pfeffer '13, they were largely quieted as the afternoon wore on. A struggle to find a consistent rhythm and to establish lasting momentum was evident in the lack of assists tallied in the box score, just two, and the number of face-offs won by the Cardinals, 13 of 19.

While the Middlebury defenders played physical, disciplined 'on ball' defense, their opponents capitalized on seams, which opened up on the crease and the backside. Matt Rayner '12, the undisputed leader of the defense, was forced to leave the field with what appeared to be a shoulder injury after nearly ending a Wesleyan player's athletic career with a jarring hit.

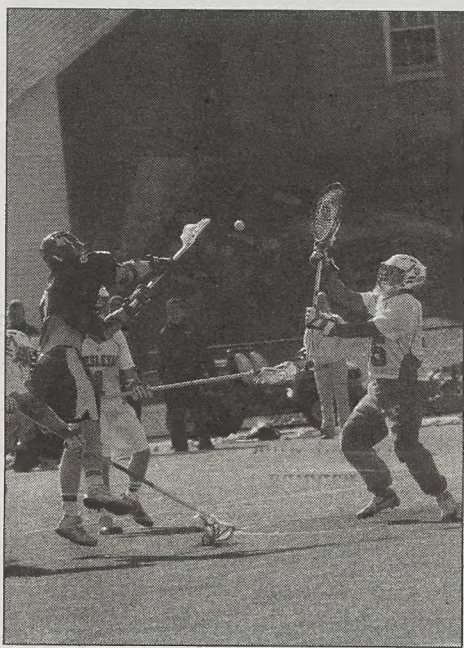
Last year the Panthers played Wesleyan in their third game of the season just like this year, but beat them 12-5.

Despite this fact, Peter Jennings '12 saw the game as a learning experience for the team looking forward to the rest of the season.

"Wesleyan exposed flaws in both our offense and defense that we can fix going forward," Jennings said. "They managed to disrupt the flow of our offensive attack. This will be a big week of practice as we try to fix some of these problems and get guys healthy to come out strong against Conn."

The team will have much time to improve on this loss with 10 more games, seven of which are NESCAC games, before the NESCAC playoffs which begin May 1.

Middlebury returns to action on March 26 when it hosts Conn. College before traveling to Washington D.C. over spring break to take on Washington and Lee. From there, the team will be thrown into the heart of their season, playing both Amherst and Bowdoin their first week back.



Courtesy/ Jeff Patterson

Co-captain David Hild '11 fires a shot on goal.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Ranked 16th nationally, tri-captain Tori Aiello '12 narrowly won in the #1 singles spot.

Women remain undefeated this season, moving to 3-0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

will be playing four separate matches as they travel to the south for a training trip. The team will start off by playing Emory University this Friday in Atlanta, Georgia. They will then play Mary Washington and Gustavus Adolphus on Saturday and Monday respectively at Emory University. The Panthers will complete their spring break matches on April Fool's Day against Savannah College of Art and Design in Hilton Head, S.C.

"The team is excited to finally play outdoors this coming Friday," Hanson said. "We are traveling to Atlanta for the first half of our trip to play 3 different teams. We are especially excited to play Emory who is one of the top ranked teams in the country."

The team will then quickly be in the heart of their season, beginning at Hamilton on the 10th. In the two weeks following, the team will play four matches all against NESCAC teams. Just five weeks after returning from spring break, the team will compete in the NESCAC Tournament.

Women's hockey falls in Frozen Four, wins consolation

By Damon Hatheway
STAFF WRITER

The women's hockey team ended their season Saturday in dominant fashion, skating past Gustavus Adolphus 5-0 in the third place game of the NCAA tournament. The impressive victory came after the Panthers fell 5-2 in the Frozen Four to top-seeded Rochester Institute of Technology. With a national championship in their sights, the Panthers couldn't complete their title run but finished the tournament with one of their most impressive performances of the season.

"Although we did not make it to the championship game, I do believe the weekend was a success," said goaltender Lexi Bloom '11. "Once again we showed our true character by coming out on Saturday and taking it to the Gusties. We tend to joke about playing a game after a bad loss because we take all our anger and frustration out on the next team."

The win over Gustavus Adolphus also sent a talented core of seniors off with a win in their final game. Bloom, who was named an All-American on Thursday, recorded her nation-leading 12th shutout of the year in the win while Anna McNally '11 recorded two third period goals in the rout to give her 10 total goals on the season. Senior forward Julia Ireland '11 also recorded her ninth assist of the season to go along with 12 goals.

The Panthers got out to an early lead when Lauren Greer '13 scored her second goal of the weekend on the Panthers power

play less than halfway through the first period.

The Panthers converted two of their six power plays against Gustavus, a stark improvement over their Frozen Four game against Rochester in which the Panthers were just one of eight on the power play while conceding two goals in three penalty situations.

The Golden Gusties meanwhile failed to score on any of their five power play opportunities, as they couldn't beat Bloom who made all 30 saves in her final game as a Panther.

Sara Ugalde '14 doubled the Panthers lead to 2-0 14:52 into the second period after Gustavus Adolphus defender Lindsey Hjelm was penalized for checking in a goal-scoring situation, giving the Panthers a penalty-shot, which the first-year player put in the net for her 13th goal of the season.

Maggie Melberg '12 made it a 3-0 game less than two minutes later when she scored her seventh goal of the season. Maggie Woodward '13 and Madeline Joyce '14 assisted the goal.

Already leading 3-0 going into the final period, McNally put the finishing touches on the game with two evenly spaced goals in the third period, one at the 9:21 mark and her second 18:42 into the period.

For the senior co-captain from St. Paul, Minnesota, the two-goal performance was an appropriate end to a great career at Middlebury, but not the ultimate goal.

"It was definitely bittersweet to have ended my career in the third place game," she

said. "It was a hard pill to swallow knowing that we weren't playing for a national title, but I am grateful to have been able to put on the jersey one more time with my best friends."

The Panthers had a chance to knock off Rochester, who would lose to Norwich in the NCAA finals, but couldn't capitalize on key chances, the most notable of which were their eight power plays.

After a scoreless first period, during which the Panthers failed to score in three advantage situations, RIT jumped out to a quick 3-0 advantage over a stretch of 8:12 in the second period.

The Panthers fought back however, as Maggie Melberg grabbed the first goal for the Panthers, 15:18 into the second period. The goal was a turning point of sorts for the Panthers who closed the Rochester lead to 3-2 11:32 into the third period when Greer beat the Tigers goaltender Chamberlain.

"After we scored the first goal to make it 3-1, I knew that we were right back in it," said line-mate McNally. "We were getting a lot of chances and their freshman goaltender had one heck of a night."

Chamberlain made 34 saves in the game and proved to be the difference for the Tigers. The first-year player finished with the best winning percentage of any goaltender in division three hockey and second in goals allowed per game, trailing only Bloom.

The Tigers took advantage of a tripping penalty on McNally 12:30 into the third period by scoring on the power play just 12 seconds later.

It was just the Panthers third penalty of the game, but RIT, whose special teams are among the best in the country, took advantage of the limited opportunities. The Tigers led the nation in penalty kill efficiency, while converting over 26 percent of their own advantage situations.

The Tigers fifth and final goal was an empty net goal that Kolbee McCrea put between the posts with 1:15 remaining in the game, sealing the Panthers fate. Head coach Bill Mandigo put things in perspective after the Panthers loss.

"I think when you go to the Final Four you only have one thing on your mind and that is winning the 7:00 game on Saturday night," he said. "I thought we competed hard, never quit and left Rochester with our heads held high. But, we did not play in the game we wanted to on Saturday."

The Panthers rebounded from the loss in the semifinals to play one of their most complete games on Saturday.

"I think the players had a sense of purpose to make sure the seniors went out winners and to show all that when you put the jersey with an 'M' on, it matters," Mandigo said.

McNally echoed her coach's comments. "This year has been incredible and I truly feel so lucky to have had the privilege of playing with such a special group of girls," she said. "I will never forget this team and I wish them the absolute best in the seasons to come. I know that they are capable of achieving anything if they stay together, stay focused, and as we say, 'Hold the rope.'"

Notes from the road: One fan's journey to Virginia

By Damon Hatheway
STAFF WRITER

For sports fans, applying to college usually means making a decision between big-time athletics and big-time academics. Sure, there are select schools where you can find both, such as Duke (gross), Georgetown (you better be a basketball fan), and Stanford (good luck getting in), but for the most part finding a top-tier school with top-tier athletics is almost impossible. After a historic run by the men's basketball team that nearly culminated in a National Championship, I think you can add a new school to that list: Middlebury College.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm not comparing a trip to the Division III Final Four to Division I March Madness- I understand that they're very different. But

this team has shown that there is a beauty to division three athletics that even division one sports cannot eclipse.

Take the past two weekends, for example, when I joined a group of students on trips to Rochester, N.Y., and Salem, Va., to support the Middlebury men's basketball team in the NCAA tournament. We temporarily forgot about our midterms and the mountains of homework we had to do in the pursuit of witnessing Middlebury College history. For two straight weeks we rode the emotional highs and lows of a team that we actually felt a part of; a team that we felt we could will to victory if we could only yell just a little bit louder or inspire the bench that much more with our chants of defense.



Throughout the course of the entire season, there was no denying the heart and team unity that Middlebury showed game in and game out, a crucial part of their success.

The Middlebury men's college basketball team proved this season that you could find excellence in athletics and academics at the same school, even at one the size of Middlebury. The Panthers, who finished the season at 28-2 earned a berth to the Final Four in Salem, Virginia last weekend as the top remaining seed in the NCAA tournament.

Although they didn't win the National Championship as many people thought and hoped they would, these Panthers accomplished more than just a Final Four appearance- they energized a campus around their success. They inspired students to make the 13-hour road trip to Salem last weekend and six hours to Rochester the weekend before. In the past four years they have turned this campus from a hockey-school into a hockey-school with a basketball team that is way too good to be ignored.

Over the past four seasons alone head coach Jeff Brown has won 96 games and made the NCAA tournament each year. The Panthers won their first tournament game ever last year, but couldn't advance past the second round of the tournament. This year they came within a game of the National Championship.

"For me, success in a huge spectator sport like basketball represents the ultimate opportunity for us to put our school pride on display," said



Middlebury fans that made the trip to Salem for the final four may have been disappointed by the outcome, but they were certainly not let down by the excitement of the game.

Craig Thompson '13.5, one member of a contingent of students who made the trips to Rochester and Salem. "It's truly special to see Middlebury spirit personified by the dedication of Midd's fans. I love that the Middlebury team showed that their abilities merit more than just casual rooting interest, and I hope the success of our team can be reciprocated by even more voracious fan support in years to come." What this team has accomplished goes beyond the basketball court. Division III athletes define what it means to be student-athletes.

Although Andrew Locke '11, at 6'10" and 230 pounds may be the same size as Kevin Durant and while second-team All-American Ryan Sharry '12 could play at a number of Division I schools, at Middlebury their contribution to the school only starts on the basketball court. Take seniors Jamal Davis '11 and Andrew Plumley '11 for example, who were FYCs in Allen last year. I'm not sure any freshmen at Duke have Nolan Smith or Kyle Singler living on their halls.

This is a team that is great, on and off the court. For the past month the players of this team united the campus through their talent as basketball players, but more importantly through their talent as people as well. Their appreciation for their fans was secondary only to their fans appreciation for them.

"What I will remember most about the past two weeks is the sense of camaraderie I felt, both with the team and with my fellow fans," Thompson said. "What I love about

sports is the way it brings a community together. I'll remember all of the great individual performances our players had, but I'll never forget the unity our team's success forged."


In addition, the basketball team has set a model for success for the other teams on campus. "As a fan and women's team member, the Final Four was a huge deal for our program," said senior captain of the women's basketball team Lauren Sanchez '11.

"Throughout my career, the men's team has always been very successful, but this year they changed basketball history here at Middlebury. It's inspiring for our team and plenty of other teams here at Middlebury."

We traveled to Salem hoping to make history, and while the pain of coming so close to winning a National Championship still lingers for players and fans, the lasting impression from this season will be overwhelmingly positive.

"My memories include almost running onto the floor after ridiculous dunks, being constantly amazed by the team's talent and, and most of all, a ton of smiles," said Sanchez.

This above all else is what we will remember from the past few weeks when we look back on the team's incredible run to Salem. Because, while we all wanted to see a National Championship banner hanging from the rafters of Pepin Gymnasium, this team has reminded us why Division III athletics are so great and why we are so lucky to have a team like the men's basketball team on this campus.



The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	3/17	Team	Dillon's Discourses
1	2	Women's hockey (23-5-1)	Third place in the whole dang country ain't too bad, if you ask this Arkansan.
2	1	Men's Bball (28-2)	A heartbreaking final-four loss, but props to Ryan Sharry '12 for being named just the second All-American in school history
3	7	Women's tennis (3-0)	They've now dropped just one match in three games this season. And no, I didn't get those terms backwards.
4	4	Women's lacrosse (2-0)	Single-handedly destroying Wesleyan and my editor's picks record all in one weekend.
5	3	Men's lacrosse (2-1)	Our bro's couldn't hold off Wesleyan's bros in OT.
6	5	Men's tennis (3-0)	They only dropped due to their scheduling (no games last weekend). Step it up, men's tennis scheduler.
7	—	Men's rugby (1-0)	Took care of business against Southern Connecticut in step one on their road to the national title.
8	—	Baseball (0-0)	They haven't been very successful on their spring break trip the last two seasons- can they buck that trend this year?



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor
The women rebounded from a semifinal loss to take the third place spot from Gustavus Adolphus in decisive fashion, earning them the top spot this week.

Wilkerson honored as Regional Coach of Year

By Alyssa O'Gallagher
SPORTS EDITOR

Nicole Wilkerson, the women's track and field assistant coach was recently honored by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) as the Division III indoor track and field New England Region Coach of the Year for the 2011 season.

A Rice graduate, Wilkerson spent three years at Texas A&M before coming to Middlebury 10 years ago. Working with both the cross country and track and field teams at Middlebury, she has coached close to 30 All-American athletes.

After serving as the assistant cross country coach for the last nine years, Wilkerson will assume the role of head coach of the team this fall, replacing retiring head coach Terry Aldrich.

She will remain assistant coach of the track and field team, continuing to coach distance runners to success and hopefully more NCAA championships for nine months of the year.

Panthers eat Cardinals on home field, winning by 10

By Jamie Burchfield
STAFF WRITER

The 13th ranked Middlebury Panthers had a definitive victory over the Wesleyan Cardinals this past Saturday on Kohn Field. The Panthers improve to 2-0 in the season with both victories against NESCAC opponents.

The win was a solid team effort, as seven different scorers

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Saturday, March 19

Middlebury	15
Wesleyan	5

netted goals. Sally Ryan '11 scored the first goal of the game off a free position, before the Cardinals responded with a goal of their own.

From there, Middlebury broke away with a five-goal run and would continue to hold the momentum for the rest of the game.

Ellen Halle '13 scored three goals during the first half, ending the Panthers' five goal run at 9:43 off a feed from Ryan. The teams

then exchanged a pair of goals leaving the score at 8-3 at the intermission.

Ryan set the tone for the second half, adding two more goals to her tally including one in which she forced a Cardinals turnover, setting up her own score at 20:32.

Wesleyan's Kaylin Berger responded with a goal, her third of the game, before Chase Delano '11 fired back with a score for the Panthers. Berger would score again setting the score at 11-5 with 11:27 left to play.

From there on out, Middlebury controlled the game, answering Wesleyan's pair of goals with four of its own—two for Ryan, one for Halle and one for Liz Garry '12.

Goalie Lily Nguyen '12 had another great game making twelve saves while only allowing five goals during her 57:42 time in net. Alyssa Palomba '14 stepped in goal for the final 2:18 of the game, making one save in that time.

Halle, Ryan and Coach Missy

Foote all attributed the team's victory to the hard work they put in practicing fast breaking off the draw and goalie clears this past week.

"Fast break goals always boost the energy on the field," said Ryan, "and made Saturday's game fast paced and exciting."

"We were able to play with composure while also taking some risks," said Halle, "which really paid off."

Moreover, the team remained consistent throughout the game, a promising improvement from last week's victory against Bates. This complete game can be attributed to the fact that many members of the team stepped up, producing multiple standouts in the mind of Coach Foote.

Foote commended Liza Herzog '14 on "scoring her first collegiate goal and having six ground balls and two caused turnovers."

Moreover, she applauded her veterans for their leading roles in the game. Foote recognized, "Sally Ryan's five goals, one assist,



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

The Panthers put pressure on the Cardinals' goalie all game, netting 15.

three ground balls and four draw controls; Halle's four goals; Hannah Epstein '12 held their leading assister to no assists; Nguyen had 12 saves, and Steph Gill '12 did an incredible job changing up the draw and had four draw controls herself."

The team will hope to continue this winning streak Thursday against Babson, who the Panthers lost to last year in a close 15-13 match.

Both Foote and Ryan are ready to work on their offensive plays, midfield transition and fast break in anticipation of their matchup against the Babson Beavers.

While off to a great start, Foote noted that the team's goals for the season are to "play as a cohesive group and surpass our potential." The Panthers will host Babson at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24th.



Lauren Sanchez

Middlebury's historic final four run finally came to an end last Friday, when a last-second Nolan Thompson '3 shot fell short, ending the season.

Panthers' season ends in heartbreaking loss

By Andrew Silver
STAFF WRITER

All good things must come to an end as the Middlebury Men's basketball team record-breaking season came to an end Friday at the ends of St. Thomas (29-3), narrowly missing the team's first Division 3 Championship appearance. However, the Panthers did not go down without a fight.

Middlebury jumped out to an early lead to start the game after a basket and pair of blocks by leading scorer Ryan Sharry '12

gave the team a 7-2 advantage. After battling back to an 11-11 tie thanks to tight defense and quick three point shooting, the Tommies kept the game close through most of the first half. However, a 10-2 run in the final two and a half minutes of the first half gave St. Thomas a 32-25 lead going into the locker room.

Uncharacteristically, the Panthers shot just 33 percent from the floor in the first period, miss-

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, PAGE 21

Women's tennis dominates Rochester with 9-0 victory

By Alex Edel
SPORTS EDITOR

In their third match of the season, the women's tennis team came out victorious, beating Rochester 9-0 at home. So far this season, the team lost only one match out of the 27 played, and entered the match against Rochester ranked 12th nationally.

This week 16th ranked Victoria Aiello '12 beat 17th ranked Lia Wiener in only two matches for the number one singles match. Both sets were close, but Aiello pulled away victorious, winning 7-6 and 7-5.

In the number two doubles spot, Leah Kepping '13 was able to pull out victorious after losing the first set 5-7, winning the next two 6-1, 6-4 in order to beat out Rochester's Frances Tseng. Sally Wilkey '12 also won her match in the number three singles spot after losing the first set 5-7, easily beating Alexandra Goodman in the next two sets 6-1, 6-2.

Finishing out the singles matches were Anna Burke '13, Dorrie Paradies '14 and Whitney Hanson '11. All three of them won their matches in just two sets; none of them letting their opponents win more than three games.

In terms of doubles play, in 27 games played over three separate matches, Middlebury players only let three games get away.

In the number one doubles spot Brittany Faber '13 and Kepping let two games through to win 8-2 against Alexandra Goodman and Frances Tseng of Rochester.

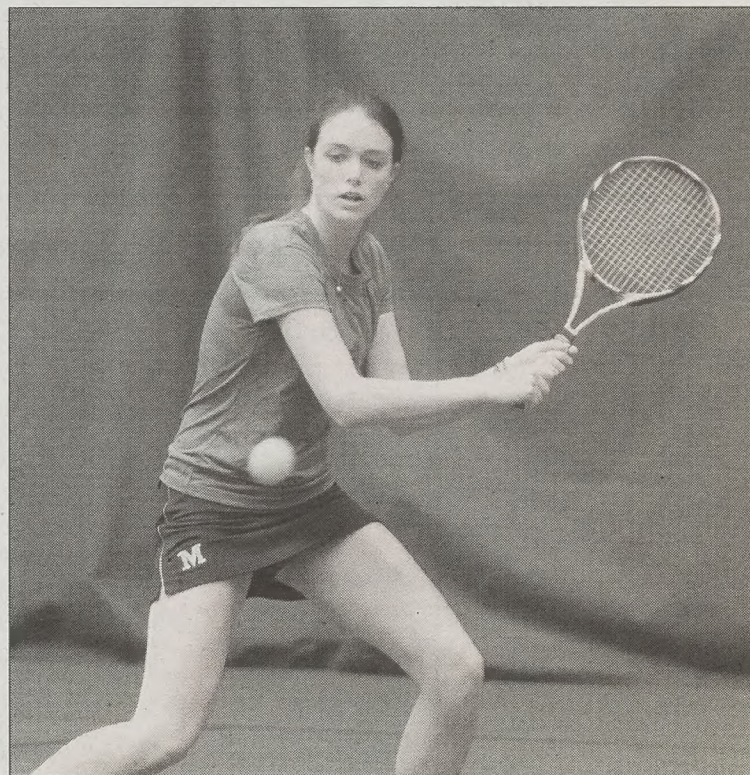
Both the team of Aiello and Burke and the team of Wilkey and Paradies easily won their matches, both winning 8-1.

"The team put in a lot of time during the off season which is already paying off as we head into

the spring," said tri-captain Hanson. "Everyone on the team has gained confidence this year after our successful fall season, our off season training and our strong start to the spring season. We have a very energetic team and everyone is excited and prepared to play well."

Over spring break the team

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 22



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Brittany Faber '13 was part of the #1 doubles team that easily won 8-2.

this week in sports

Men's lacrosse

The Panthers take Wesleyan into overtime, ultimately losing to the Cardinals 9-8, page 22.



games to watch

Women's lacrosse vs. Babson, Today at 4 p.m.

Men's lacrosse vs. Connecticut College, March 26 at 1 p.m.



Women's hockey

The women falter in the face of R.I.T.'s attack, falling just one game shy of the Championship, page 22.